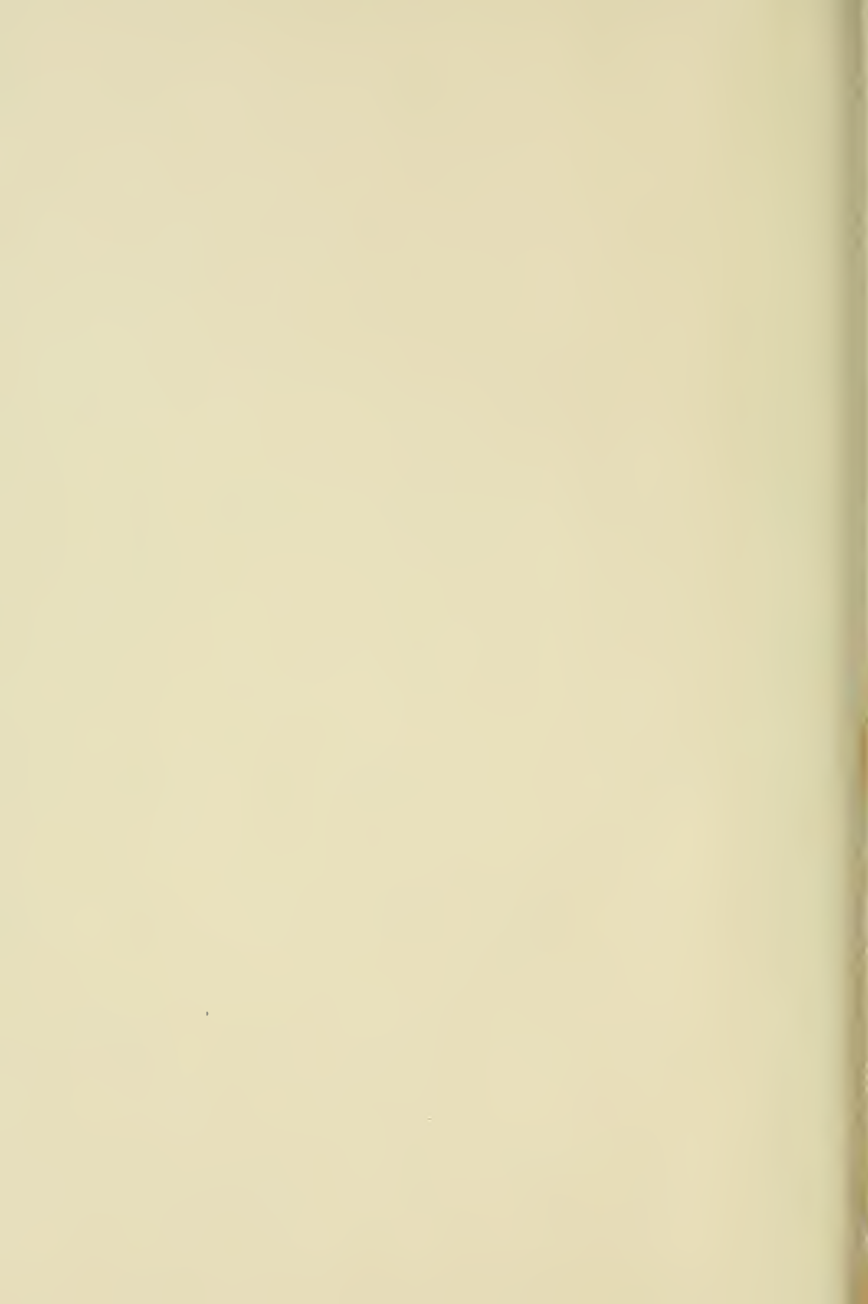


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ALSACE

THROUGHOUT THE AGES

BY

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Physicist — Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur

Decorated for Bravery

Done into English by

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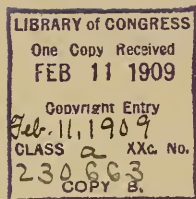
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MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES MILLER, A. M.

AT

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By CHARLES MILLER

TO
HIS ALSATIAN FELLOW COUNTRYMEN
IN THE
UNITED STATES

This Book is Dedicated

BY
MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES MILLER, A. M.
Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur

AUTHOR'S INTRODUCTION.

The object of the present publication is to set forth the prehistorical, geographical, historical and ethnographical facts which unite Alsace to France, in accordance with natural and social laws.

In defiance of these laws, Germany has wrested Alsace-Lorraine from France, and has dealt its people the cruelest of blows, in depriving a part of them of the land of their birth, the others, of that of their choice.

Being one of the first fifteen hundred thousand victims of this act of violence, I wish, even to the end of my life, to protest against its iniquity; and that is why, at the age of eighty years, I offer this book to the judgment of my compatriots of France and Alsace.

It contains, with reference to the common origin of the French and Alsatian territories and the primitive people inhabiting them, certain scientific ideas put into popular form for the use of the general public and the younger generation. Beginning with historic times, it enumerates the chief events which succeeded one another in the regions between the Rhine and the sea, from the epoch of their invasion and occupation by the Celts, through the Gallo-Roman and Gallo-Frankish periods.

After setting forth how Alsace became separated from the French Empire created by Charlemagne, in the partition of states among his grandsons, it gives an account of the autonomous conditions un-

der which, for seven and a half centuries, it was held under the suzerainty of the German Emperors, and then the circumstances of its restoration to France, of which it became, especially from the time of the Revolution of 1789, one of the most important and patriotic provinces.

To these various phases of the story of Alsace, are appended episodes, scenes, or little personal dramas, whose object is to characterize the epochs to which they belong.

The book ends with a synopsis of the events which took place in Alsace from the reign of Louis XIV. to 1871. The aim of it all is to show :

That in prehistoric times, Alsace was united to France by the formation of the territories of the two, and the identity of the races inhabiting them :

That the destiny of the two remained one and inseparable during all the centuries which elapsed between the arrival of the Celts and the cession of Alsace to Louis the German :

That while Alsace was under the suzerainty of the German Emperors, but without incorporation in any German state, it continued to be populated by the native Gallo-Frankish race, although in the end the people had dropped the use of the Romance tongue, to take up the idiom of the neighboring people across the Rhine :

That after their return to France, two centuries and a half ago, the Alsatians never ceased to give her evidences of their patriotism :

And lastly, that both the natural and historical facts prove that the Rhine and the Rhine only can properly serve as the boundary between France and Germany.

TRANSLATOR'S INTRODUCTION.

In having put into English for the purpose of distribution among his friends, this work of his octogenarian compatriot, with its unique point of view, its quaintly charming tales of early times, and its fervent patriotism, General Miller is certainly adding very gracefully to the countless tributes of Alsatian spiritual loyalty to France.

The Alsatian, though no longer under French government, true to his blood, is a Frenchman in his ideals; and ideals are things the civil authorities cannot coerce.

Throughout France's struggles for liberty, from the Revolution down, Alsace furnished her with some of her greatest leaders—Ney, Kleber, Lefebvre—and most devoted soldiers of the line; men of intelligence, humanity, generosity and quick responsiveness. Such characteristics as these, hundreds of thousands of Alsatians have taken into exile, and such characteristics, together with somewhat of the quality that urged the great leaders to their achievements, the donor of this book brought in boyhood into the free atmosphere of America. That he early threw himself into her activities and entered her military life; that he has become the head of a tremendous business, has been largely instrumental in building up a city, administered in its government, provided for the further education of its workers and gathered together among them a famous Bible class—one of the largest in the world;

that he became a Major-General in the National Guard of his State, and has been made a Master of Arts and *Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur*, in acknowledgment of his eminent services to industry and commerce—all this is the natural and very suggestive story of this son of two lands so alike in aspirations, so different in fate—a story which it has seemed to the translator should find at least this very small place in "*Alsace Throughout the Ages*."

ALSACE THROUGHOUT THE AGES.

FIRST VIEW.

The **Ballons d'Alsace**, one of the three oldest areas of France.—Fire, air, earth and water.—The universal sea and partial seas.—Vosges, Jura, Pyrenees and Alps.—First living things and succeeding generations.—European floods—Glacial period and glaciers of the Vosges.—The earth's present crust.—Stability of temperature.—Future of our solar system; has it always existed?

Alsace helped to form one of the three nucleal areas of the territory of France. In order to establish this fact, we must mount well up the ages, into the infinity of time and space.

The planetary system to which the earth belongs has not always existed in its present form. The stupendous amount of matter composing it, was once all confounded in a fathomless chaos, volatilised, seething, blazing in effulgent splendor; it was a *nebula*, isolated from the other worlds disseminated through space, into which it was radiating its light and its heat.

Millions of cycles passed while this mass of igneous gases and vapors, obedient to the laws of cooling bodies, and to forces within itself, was transformed through partial condensation and concentration or by centrifugal projections, into our present solar system, the sun in the center, the planets gravitating around it, and their satellites revolving about them.

The world was made! It was then an incan-

descent ball, in complete fusion, swathed in dense layers of such of its nebulous matter as the heat still held in that state. Gradually, as the heat decreased, the enveloping vapors condensed and were deposited upon the surface of the globe, adding to the thickness of the initial crust which this same decrease in heat had already produced there. Last of all, the vapors of water became liquified, and after the lapse of other long cycles the earth lay entirely submerged in a uniform ocean of hot water, which held countless minerals in solution, and was enwrapped in an atmosphere now greatly purified by the giving up of so many vapors.

These superimposed layers of water and air were yet a long time in clarifying through the discharge of the foreign matter mixed with them—the atmosphere by letting it fall and melt away in the universal ocean, and the ocean by depositing it on the surface crust below.

This twofold purification went on with exceeding slowness, for the struggle was long and formidable between the air and the sea, and between the sea and the earth's crust, still burning hot from its contact with the enormous furnace which its thin layer of solid matter scarce held in bound. The fires within either kept this fragile new crust in perpetual agitation, or else violently rent it; while the heaving crust, in its turn, caused frightful commotions in the enveloping sea, and again, the sea filled the air with masses of vapor, and lashed it into unimaginable tempests.

During one of these prodigious combats between the water without and the fire within, the earth's crust was torn asunder in that section of the globe

where France now lies, and from the heart of the universal sea there emerged *islands*, whose granitic masses formed to the westward certain prominent points in Normandy and Brittany, toward the center a part of Auvergne, and eastward the first peaks of the Vosges, the two *Ballons d'Alsace*, at the southern extremity of the range.

No French soil, therefore, is more ancient than Alsace, and in only two other sections of the country is there any soil as old.

Meanwhile, the struggle between fire and water went on through the earth's crust, which was continually growing thicker from the consolidation of particles within and the superposition of deposits without. As its powers of resistance increased, the solid envelope of the burning sphere yielded less readily to assaults from the molten mass it bounded; at the same time, when these interior forces accumulated to such a degree as to be able to overcome the resistance of the crust, it was so much the more violently disrupted and displaced, rising in some regions and sinking in others. The original uniformity of its surface was destroyed, and its inequalities now broke the perfect spheroid of the universal sea, dividing it into numerous shallow partial seas, one of which, the Jurassic, bathed the foot of the earliest Vosges.

After the Vosges, the Pyrenees rose to the surface, then the Jura, and finally the latest and most imposing groups of the Alps, while the Vosges chain widened, lengthened, and built itself up, tier on tier, out of porphyry, syenite, quartz, and especially great masses of both red and grey sandstone and calcareous rocks.

The waters of the seas and lakes, which at different times had covered that part of the earth's surface that was to become France, were in the end driven back into the Atlantic, to serve as the boundary on the west, as the Pyrenees did on the south, the Alps and Jura on the southeast, and the Vosges on the east. And now, just as we said earlier that *the earth was made*, we may say that *France was made*.

Before this result was reached, however, the regions she was to occupy had passed through many and diverse phases. In those partial seas which long overspread the territory, the earliest living things came into being,—algae and other sea weeds among plants, and among animals, shell fish and crustaceans.

At this time, the whole earth possessed a uniformly warm temperature, the same at the poles and the equator, and incapable of variation, protected as it was from solar influence by the density of the earth's atmosphere, still heavy, gloomy and opaque.

When the waters and air had sufficiently cleared, to the first inhabitants of the seas were added fishes and huge aquatic reptiles, of which latter the ichthyosaurus and the plesiosaurus are the types most commonly known. These animals frequented the waters south of the early Vosges.

All the land which had then emerged upon the surface of the globe, bore a luxuriant vegetation of horsetails, lycopods and ferns of immense size, whose debris, buried by the successive transformations in the earth's surface, is found to-day in the

form of coal deposits. Coal lands were thus formed at both extremities of the Vosges.

At length, through the continued purification of the air, the earth began to receive the impression of the sun's rays, and to be subject to the influences of day and night, the seasons, and differences of temperature.

Now the first birds and mammals appeared. The earliest among these latter were in form very much like the tapirs and the roe-deer of our time. They were succeeded by a varied series of herbivores, ending in the mastodons and mammoths, those ancient models of our modern elephants.

The great number of animals living upon plants, offered abundant prey to those which live on flesh, so that the carnivores made their appearance shortly after the first of the herbivores. Among the chief species were the cave lion, the cave tiger, the cave bear, the hyena, wolves, jackalls and foxes. The earliest men were contemporary with the most recent of these animals.

While these various generations of living things were succeeding one another, Europe was subjected to two great cataclysms known as floods, and prior to the one commonly called—after the fashion of Moses—*the flood*, which was occasioned by the rise of the great chain that is a continuation in Asia of the Caucasus. The North of Europe was ravaged by a deluge caused by the upheaval of the Scandinavian Mountains, and the south of it by another, caused by the rise of the great Alpine group. The waters projected over Europe by these two formidable commotions, laid mountains low, tunneled out valleys, and covered the plains with an immense

deposit of boulders, mud, sand and drift of all kinds, leaving in Alsace, at the foot of the Vosges, considerable deposits of *loess*, a peculiar mixture of clay, chalk, quartz sand, mica sand and oxide of iron.

At the end of this period of prodigious upheavals, the Vosges had attained their present dimensions and form, and together with the fine plain which extends from their base to the middle of the valley where the Rhine flows, made a still more complete separation between France and Germany.

All this European area now enjoyed a warm and humid climate, favorable to a luxuriant vegetation. Oaks, elms, alders, and the other species of our modern trees, filled its vast and richly timbered forests, and in the regions they left bare, stretched endless grassy prairie lands.

Across this territory with its magnificent forests and savannas, there ranged in great herds the mammoth, the rhinoceros, two species of ox called aurochs and urus, horses, and a great number of smaller animals, their happy existence troubled only by the attacks of cave tigers, hyenas, wolves, and other beasts of prey, or of eagles and falcons and the great horned owl. The destruction of the multitude of animals and plants that had perished in the two European floods seemed thus to be well atoned for, when there came a new catastrophe quite as disastrous as the other in point of extent and duration.

From a cause which no one as yet has been able to determine, there occurred a sudden glacial cold, extending from the pole to the meridional sections of Europe, a cold so instantaneous in its arrival,

that within the last hundred years there have been found buried in the snow and ice of Siberia, perfectly preserved bodies of the mammoth and the rhinoceros of this time, which had been so rapidly prisoned that there was not the least trace of putrefaction about them.

The mountain heights were weighted down with immense glaciers, which descended through the valleys to the snow-clad plains. A few intermediate plateaux alone preserved their forests, and served as refuge for the animals that survived the great disaster.

Just as it is in our own time with the glaciers of the Alps and the other mountains whose tops rise above the line of perpetual snow, so it was with those of the glacial period; yielding to their own weight, and to the pressure of the continual freezing at their summits, they glided over the sides of the valleys, breaking away boulders and rock masses, and transporting them often for considerable distances, meanwhile planing, polishing and grooving the rocks which resisted their onward movement. We find traces of this action in stone quarries, in erratic boulders, and in striated, polished and sheep-back rocks left along the courses of old glaciers. One of the chief of these glaciers in the Alps, descended as far as the upper course of the Rhine, while in the Vosges, two glaciers remarkable for their size were the one extending from the *Ballon* of Guebwiller into the valley of Saint-Amarin, and the one in the valley of the Moselle, which ended a little way above Remiremont. The glacial period closed as it had begun, without any known cause, and organic life took up again the tenor of its way.

Since this geological epoch, there have been none of those great cataclysmic disturbances which once overturned and transformed the entire topography of the earth. The action of the interior fires is no longer apparent save in limited areas and under peculiar conditions,—in earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and certain partial elevations or subsidences of land. The ocean levels remain constant, and only rarely do we even find, at some points along their coasts, the slow elevation or depression of deltas. Yet the earth's crust has but a slight thickness, of about sixty kilometers, corresponding to no more than the two-hundred-and-sixty-fifth part of the diameter of the molten globe it envelops.

Furthermore, it has been shown that from the earliest historic times, the mean temperature over the earth's surface has not varied. Among the observations made in determining the fact, is the co-existence of the vine and the palm in certain countries of the Orient. The vine cannot live in regions where the temperature remains for any length of time above twenty-five or thirty degrees centigrade; while the palm perishes where the temperature is continually below that mean. But these two plants are known to have lived together for three thousand years, in Judea and other eastern lands with such a temperature. So the earth's surface has neither increased nor decreased in heat for thirty centuries.

This stability is due to the fact that the earth receives from the sun as much heat as it loses by radiation, and it will be maintained as long as the sun preserves its present thermal state. But if the solar heat should diminish, that radiant star too would pass through the phases which the earth has

undergone; eventually it would grow dim, be incrusted, and after ages upon ages, it would become solid, dark and cold, while long before this end had been reached, the planets about it would have suffered the same fate, and with the sun would have become invisible in space.

Is it in this way that certain stellar worlds whose disappearance has been established by astronomers, have found their end? It has in fact been observed, that among the myriads of suns which under the name of fixed stars make up our firmament, and whose number is surely infinite, though we can know only those visible through our telescopes, some disappear, while others come suddenly into view. What is this that is going on in the three infinities of time, space and worlds? And what is to be thought of the assurance with which we sometimes hear it affirmed that the universe has always been what it is to-day?

But without calling to witness these stars which come to their birth and die in the celestial fields open to man's science, and limiting ourselves to the consideration of our own particular system, so small and so humble in the three boundless immensities of which we have been speaking, we are forced to recognize the fact that this system had a *definite beginning*, and was made at a *definite time*.

In fact, as we have already said, its present state is the result of conditions to which its original matter has been subjected. By the laws which govern the cooling of a heated body in a medium of a lower temperature than itself, however hot that body and however cold the space about it, a certain time is necessary for the operation; *but it needs only a*

certain time, and this time has necessarily a beginning and an end.

For our solar system the end—as yet—is its present state, the heat which the planets receive from the sun equalizing the loss of their own; *but the commencement of the cooling of our original nebula—where is that?* It also must have its place in time; this cooling cannot have begun with infinity, since infinity has no beginning.

However many millions of centuries, therefore, the original matter of our solar system has required for arriving at its present thermal condition and assuming its present form, this time must have had *a point of departure in eternity, and this matter a precise moment of origin.*

A solitary objection may be opposed to this statement. In accordance with the known laws of the transformation of heat into motion and motion into heat, the shock of a chance collision between two stellar worlds, would produce an amount of heat, sufficiently great to cause them to pass again into a nebulous state, when they would once more begin the series of phases we have just been describing.

But, considering the admirable laws of celestial mechanics, may we admit that two stellar worlds could collide in space? Assuredly not. The only occurrence of this order that we may suppose possible, is the impact of a comet against some sun into which it would sink with scarcely a ripple, or against some planet, to which it could give no vital injury, whatever surface commotions it might produce.

We may therefore repeat our contention that the original matter of that solar system to which the

earth belongs, has not always existed, but was formed in space, at a given moment; and we may ask, whence did it come? Matter not being able to arise of itself out of nothing, must have been drawn out of it by some more powerful cause of which it is only the effect.

Our minds cannot rise to the conception of a Supreme Essence, disposing at will of space, eternity, and worlds, any more than they can rise to a conception of these three infinities; but are we not reduced to a like inability in regard to subjects more nearly within our grasp; since though we know perfectly well their properties and mode of action, we have no account to offer of the true nature of heat, light, or electricity, of the expansive power of gases, of the cohesion of solids, or of gravitation and weight?

In our powerlessness to fathom these profound mysteries, let us simply recall the fact, that as men have advanced in intelligence and knowledge, they have passed from belief in the fetich of the savage to belief in the idol of the barbarian; then to that in the numerous divinities of the civilized nations of antiquity, and have now reached the point where they put their faith in one God, the sovereign Master of all Nature.

SECOND VIEW.

Age of the mammoth, of primitive man, of rough stone.—
Origin of the human race.—The dawn of humanity.

In the long protracted time during which Europe suffered the terrible but transitory catastrophes of the two partial floods and the glacial period, Alsace, like the rest of that part of what we now call the Old World, was covered with fertile plains and vast stretches of forest, rich in all sorts of trees and plants analogous to those existing in our own time.

It was then inhabited by the mammoth, a great elephant with long, backward-curving tusks, a woolly coat, and a bushy mane running the length of its back; by the two-horned rhinoceros, the hippopotamus, and those great animals of the ox tribe, the aurochs and urus; by deer with gigantic antlers, undersized horses, reindeer, and numbers of smaller herbivorous animals.

In the midst of this peaceable population, huge species of tigers, bears, hyenas, wolves and jackals made incessant and easy depredations. Numerous birds enlivened the woods, the plains, and the borders of the streams, having nothing to fear but the small carnivores, and the eagles, owls, falcons and smaller birds of prey.

Nature thus diversified and exuberant, was now made complete by the advent of man.

To establish the existence of this primitive man,

antediluvian or prehistoric, as he is called, we shall point out only a few general facts. While the bones found in some of the caves, lairs of beasts, and rocky fissures containing relics of this age, were plainly accumulated by beasts or washed up by torrents, in other caves of the mountains or hillsides, animal bones have been found cleft open their whole length, together with human bones and implements hewn out of rough flint—knives, saws, axes, arrow-heads and spear heads, some of which had apparently been equipped with handles of wood or bone.

At some points, piles of the shells of edible sea animals, and here and there traces of a hearth, also attest the presence of man's toil, and there have been discovered mortuary caves, sealed by stone slabs, and containing human bones. Elsewhere veritable manufactories of the different flint instruments have been unearthed.

Among all these relics of the age of primitive man, found buried in strata underneath those upon which we live to-day, the most important are complete human skulls, the cranium, facial bones and jaws entire. In the valley of the Rhine, but on the German side, a French inventor, M. Aime Boue, found, in 1823, a fragment of a human skull buried in the *loess*, whose formation dates back to the deluge caused by the upheaval of the final and greater groups of the Alps; and in Alsace, in the region of Eguisheim, not far from Colmar, from the same *loess*, Dr. Fandel picked up, thirty years ago, a skull of the same nature.

The anatomical study of fossil bones belonging to the first human beings that inhabited Europe, has resulted in establishing the fact that these men were

short, stocky, and strong limbed, resembling in height, build and physiognomy the modern Samoyards and Esquimoux. Their appearance in Europe, like so many other natural phenomena, is a mystery about which many contending opinions have arisen.

One of these opinions, which dates from our own century, considers all living beings to be the successive and progressive results of an initial material movement. This theory may be summed up as follows:

By virtue of molecular attraction, and under certain peculiar chance conditions, particles of matter may so unite as to form cells, whose juxtaposition and accretion make the basis of an organic tissue. Through the action of a new cause, the vital force, this primitive tissue develops into a rudimentary living germ, which terminates this series of evolutions by a being—plant or animal—with the simplest and most elementary organism possible.

Among these elementary beings, there will be accidentally produced, in time, one or several which are more nearly perfect and stronger than the others, and thus fitted to produce a species more highly organized than that from which they sprang. By the application of this hypothesis to all the phases of existence among organized beings, the conclusion is reached that all beings which have lived and all which now live on the earth, exist as the result of successive transformations and ameliorations; thus from the first germ of the alga to the oak, from the first mollusk down to man, the countless species of organized beings which have existed and which do exist, are nothing but the result of a series of re-

peated and chance metamorphoses, that have been ages upon ages in taking place.

If this has been the way of things, how does it happen that these transformations are no longer going on, but that from the earliest historic times, not the slightest transgression of the law of the invariability of species has been detected—a law which at most admits of the production of certain varieties, and, more rarely, of hybrids, incapable of reproduction?

Under the hypothesis we are considering, man would spring from those animals which his physical type most closely resembles. But even here the resemblance is much more apparent than real. Indeed, it is almost destroyed by differences of the cranium, jaws and limbs; but were it even more complete than it appears, it would be only the more difficult to comprehend how in the case of the ape the functioning of the organs of thought is so wretchedly inferior to the marvelous results of the same action in the brain of man. Unquestionably, like most of the higher animals, the ape is susceptible of education; but it is only under the volition of man that its intelligence becomes capable of progress; left to itself, it remains undeveloped and without self-consciousness, knowing nothing more than to repeat again and again the actions demanded by the needs of its existence; while the mind of man constantly develops and *improves*, has the ability to invent and to arise to the conception of the highest abstractions, and by the light of the torch of Science, dominates all nature.

The transformation of the ape into man, does not therefore consist solely in certain modifications

of the physical structure, and to effect it would have required the impossible prodigy of bridging the abyss which separates the intellectual and moral faculties of the one from the intellectual and moral faculties of the other.

A very casual observation of the habits of animals is sufficient to show that they do not rear those of their young which are born deformed or sickly. How then should a couple of quadrumana—gibbons, chimpanzees or fierce gorillas,—have nurtured the feeble being, born of them, it is true, but without hairy covering for its naked skin, disfigured by a high and wide brow and a prominent chin, with fore limbs too short and hind limbs too straight and too long, too large heels, fingers almost inflexible, and without opposable thumbs? The mother herself would have repelled it and abandoned it, while the father would probably have destroyed it with tooth and nail. If, however, by some strange chance the frail creature had escaped abandonment or infanticide, its parents would not have been able to protect it against the dangers threatening its infancy, since it could not have bounded with them from limb to limb, or even have climbed the trees in which they lived. Furthermore, would not all these strange and exceptional circumstances need to be repeated at many adjacent points, if the new types which owed them their existence were to serve as the stock of a new race?

So it seems to bristle with numerous and insurmountable difficulties—this hypothesis which would make the human race descend—or ascend, if you will—from some species of simian, and would have us look upon ourselves as cousins germane of the

monkey tribe, and relatives more or less remote of all the other animals.

But if the earliest human beings did not owe their origin to spontaneous formations and transformations, whence then did those come of whom we find traces everywhere in Europe? Did they, in accordance with the religious belief of the Israelites, descend from a single ancestor created in the Garden of Eden? In that case, they must have degenerated greatly from that beautiful pair, Adam and Eve, fashioned by the very hand of God; and have wandered far from the divine abode inhabited by their forebears in Asia. Coming from the region of that abode of felicity, where their ancestors held converse with God and His angels, how had it been possible for them to fall to such a state that they must certainly have been inferior to many island tribes of the Pacific?

This degeneracy and this distant emigration appear trifling matters, however, in comparison with all that the descendants of Adam must have done and undergone, in order to people the whole earth with such a diversity of races—white, black, red, yellow and brown, so unlike one another physically, mentally and even morally.

If the primitive people of Europe did not have their origin in one of these two sources, they must have been formed in this portion of the globe—as, of course, other primitive people in other localities—by the omnipotent will of a Supreme Being, in accordance with whose laws the whole earth throughout the ages, has been peopled with countless species of plants and animals.

In whatever manner they may have first entered

into the world, the aborigines of Europe had to endure many hardships. Their dental and intestinal equipment forbade their living wholly upon plants, like the herbivores, and they had neither the powerful claws nor the formidable jaws which enable the carnivores to seize and rend and devour their prey. For food they had only wild fruit, a few roots, and such small animals as they could surprise and catch with their hands, whose flesh they ate raw and bleeding.

To protect themselves against the inclemencies of the weather, they had only the skins of animals weaker than themselves, which they could find ways to entrap. Their state was wretched and pitiable enough, until the day came when they learned to procure fire to warm them, to cook their food, and to keep ferocious beasts away from their dwellings.

How did this first step in humanity's progress come about? Doubtless through fires caused by lightning when it struck trees or fell upon dry brush or leaves. The witnesses of this natural phenomenon, which must have greatly frightened them at first, would eventually come to see how they might make it serve them; they would seize burning brands and light their first fires, and they would take good care to feed them perpetually.

Also, having seen sparks fly from the sudden contact of flint with pyrites or oxides of iron, all very common substances, they may have made use of the process for igniting heaps of dry moss or grasses or piles of vegetable marrow and worm-eaten wood. Perhaps, as most savage tribes of historic times have done, they even learned to ignite such inflammable material by placing it in a hole

in the surface of a dry log, and then turning rapidly around in this tinder the sharpened end of a stick, which they held vertical between the hands, in order to give it the rotary motion required for heating the pointed extremity and the sides of the hole until fire was produced.

The conquest of fire, with the knowledge of means to guard it and to light it, brought the first comfort enjoyed by primitive man, so that they took care to have it in all their habitations.

These habitations were of different kinds. Some of them, and certainly the best, were the caves discovered in the mountains or hillsides, in which the members of a more or less numerous family might live together under shelter, and store their food. If such caves failed them, no doubt these primitive men learned to dig out artificial ones, by removing the earth between boulders properly situated. Sometimes they contented themselves with the shelter of a projecting rock, adding protection at the sides by piling up stones or wood.

And finally, there is scarcely any doubt that the dwelling of these aborigines was often a conical hut, made by fixing a number of rods in the ground in the form of a circle, binding their tops together with stout wild vines, filling this roof in with turf and the branches of trees, and then covering the whole with skins—a construction like that which the wandering Indian tribes of America still build, as also—with the omission of the skins—woodchoppers do, for their temporary sojourns in the forests of Europe.

These habitations, of whatever kind, were always located in the vicinity of a spring, a brook, a river,

or a natural reservoir, and before the entrance of each burned a fire, so sheltered as to prevent the extinction of the flame, and carefully tended for its warmth, for cooking, and for keeping at a distance beasts of prey and other animals dangerous from their size and ferocity.

Primitive man made his garments from the skins and fur of the animals he killed for his food. He cut them to suit their various uses, and sewed them together with nerves or tendons or with twisted filaments of gut. These filaments he also used for making cord and ropes of various sizes and strength. All these materials he prepared and made durable by exposing them a longer or shorter time to dry in the warm air of the fires before the homes.

Having at first only stout cudgels for weapons, these men, so poorly equipped by nature with means of attack and defense, came in time to adapt to these uses sharp flints of good size, which they fashioned into axes or spears; and at length they learned to make bows and arrows, using arrowheads of flint or pointed bone.

Now confident in their own strength and prowess, these early men no longer feared the great carnivores which were their contemporaries, and even dared to hunt the most ferocious herbivorous animals, and those most formidable because of their colossal size. Among other means for getting these great creatures into their power, they must certainly have employed a ruse still used in the East Indies and in Africa. A trench was dug and then covered over with brush and the branches of trees, in such fashion that any great animal trampling upon them would break through into the opening they

hid from its eyes. The captive of these primitive hunters then perished under a fire of arrows and broken rock, and abundantly supplied their needs.

The greater variety of food thus provided by their weapons, at once began to create special gastronomic tastes in these primitive folk. They developed a marvelous liking for marrow, which they eagerly stripped out of all the large bones containing it; so that in the localities where they lived, these bones are always found artificially cleft from end to end.

The conditions of life to which these men were subjected, were plainly not favorable to their forming themselves into groups of any size. The few which they were able to make, here and there, were not large enough to be of any significance, and in general they lived in small and scattered families. Among the inevitable results of this isolation, were a slow mental development and the prolongation of the primitive state; but it also followed, that since there were no assemblages into groups or hordes, there were no pretexts for those wars which have arisen among men since their union into clans, tribes and peoples.

Moreover, having no possessions of an individual nature, and being in constant need of the aid they could give one another in the chase, they must have been ignorant of envy and cupidity, and unacquainted with rapine and theft. Not knowing how, either, to manufacture fermented liquor of any kind, they were exempt from the deplorable quarrels that drunkenness brings about. If any reason for hatred presented itself among them, it must have arisen from disputed rights to the possession of some wom-

an—though love and jealousy are passions we might expect to find very feeble and rare in the midst of an existence subject to so many needs and such hardships and dangers.

From their funeral feasts and other observances, to which all the neighboring families were invited, it is plain that general respect was shown their dead relatives and friends; and that men should be so honored after death, would seem to show that they were loved and respected in life. We cannot doubt, therefore, that these primitive people cared for their aged and orphans, and for the sick and infirm. As the existence of the family depended upon the activities of its head, who might at any moment be incapacitated by some accident or meet with death, mutual helpfulness was to the interest of all, not alone where the leaders were concerned, but also among those dependent upon these hardy followers of the chase.

THIRD VIEW.

Aborigines of Alsace. Characteristic Episode: Belette and Bear Slayer.

No collections of prehistoric remains have been discovered, to show the presence in Alsace of these earliest men; up to our own time, none of those important stations have been unearthed which are found in some localities in France and in other parts of Europe. So the primitive race would seem to have had few representatives here, those few being, no doubt, scattered along the lower slopes of the Vosges, whose summits were covered with glaciers. The skull of Eguisheim, buried in the *loess*, gives its unquestionable witness to this idea. These men would have found most favorable to them the great valleys of the Vosges, better protected against storms and the seasons' changes than the plains or the higher mountain slopes. It was at the foot of these slopes that the primitive habitations were made in natural or artificial caves, or in simple shelters built of rocks, stakes, turf, and the skin of beasts.

Let us turn our thoughts for a moment to one of these dwellings in the far-spreading valley of Orbey, which opens into the Alsatian plain where to-day the two towns of Ammerschwihr and Kient-sheim stand, and extends for more than twenty-five kilometers, beyond the point where the ruins of the ancient abbey of Pairis rise, away to the foot

of the mountains whose lofty granite peaks encircle the regions of *White Lake* and *Black Lake*.

From the flanks of one of the mountains which form the valley's southern boundary, a half score of kilometers from the plain, rises a group of great granite rocks, overhanging the spot where to-day are seen the vast heaps of ruins of the cloister of Alspach. There, between the almost vertical sides of two of these great rocks, is a narrow winding passageway leading to a cavern within, roomy enough to house a number of human beings.

On the floor in the rear of this subterranean abode, is spread an accumulation of mosses, leaves, dried grasses and undressed skins—rude enough bedding, but answering the needs of those who are destined to sleep here. Other skins and furs, for the most part converted into garments, are strung along a strong liana, fastened high at both ends on one wall of the cave. Elsewhere on the ground of the cave is piled up a small store of roots, wild fruits, and meat, the last either fresh or frozen, according to the season. In one corner is a collection of axes, spears and bows and arrows, with flint arrow-heads ready for use. Three aurochs' skulls serve as seats, and skulls of deer, wolves and hyenas for use as utensils, complete the rude furnishings of the cavern, while at its entrance a great urus hide hangs like a portiere.

A step away, at the foot of the rock outside, and surrounded by a number of great stones, a fire is burning, and around it are grouped three human beings. They are all dressed in wolf skins, and have their feet enveloped in coverings of fur, turned upwards around the ankles and tied securely with

thongs of gut. One of them, a woman, is distinguished from her companions by longer hair, a stature slightly lower and slimmer, features less rude, softer eyes and smaller hands. She seems about forty years old. She is seated on a granite block, exposing to the flame a large piece of meat, on a spit of green wood, whose ends rest upon two forked stakes driven into the ground.

Beside her stands a man a little older and stockier than she, his rough-hewn features framed in bushy black hair that falls to his shoulders, while his upper lip and chin are covered with short and sparse bristles. With a number of tightly drawn bands, he has just succeeded in fastening firmly together around the thicker end of a jade ax-head, the two sides of a split he has made in one end of a stout stick, and is regarding with a satisfied eye the fine axe he has added to his store of weapons.

The third person presented to us in the little scene, is the son of the other two. He is not over nineteen at the most, but he is already as tall, as robust, and as strong as his father, from whom he differs only in having a more juvenile face, less roughly cut features, and no beard. Seated, like his mother, on a piece of rock, he is making an auroch's horn into a trumpet. With a sharp bit of flint he has sawed off the heavy tip, and in the narrow opening thus made has firmly fastened a short piece of bone, flattened on one side, and sloping obliquely toward the large end of the horn. This needs only to be forcefully blown, to make it produce harsh and very penetrating sounds.

The three operations we have been following so carefully are finished almost at the same moment;

the son's trumpet is sonorous, the father's axe firm, and the mother's roast is done to a turn. The meat is placed on a rock, the three sit down around it, and fragment by fragment it is made away with, all eating heartily. The consumption of the meat is followed by that of a quantity of fresh water, which the son has fetched from a neighboring spring in two wolf skulls. Out of these the whole family drink at their pleasure.

The meal has been almost as silent as the labor which preceded it, for these people, having few new ideas to communicate, talk little, conversation never becoming animated among them save when they recount the dangers or mishaps of the chase.

The day is now drawing to a close, and through the veil of the falling darkness, fires begin to be visible burning in front of the habitations scattered here and there at the foot of the mountains which shut in the valley. Before the night has fallen completely, the little family we have been watching, having first fed the fire before their cave, have gone inside and given themselves to sleep.

If these primitive people at whom we have been looking for a moment, have at all aroused our interest, let us become a little more enlightened upon the subject of their previous history.

An old man had died in one of these dwellings in the valley of Orbey, and his family, wishing to proceed with the usual ceremony, had a summons sent out, from neighbor to neighbor, for an assembly of all the inhabitants of this part of the Vosges. Although one member of each family, usually the wife, always remained behind, to care for the children, keep up the fire, and guard against the depre-

dations of beasts, quite a large number of people had been able to come together, among whom were even some girls.

After the rites in honor of the dead, a score of his relatives sat down to the feast which always followed. Among these guests was a girl of nineteen or twenty, one of the most attractive of her race. She was called *Belette*, and she had arrested the attention of a young man a little older than herself, known as the most daring hunter of the region, and called *Bear Slayer*, in token of his victory in a perilous encounter with a bear, which in size and strength far surpassed the largest bears of modern times.

In the course of the day, Bear Slayer had several times sought out Belette, and they had exchanged a few words. During the feast he sat beside her, and before night had dispersed the guests he had learned her name, her age, and where she lived. He knew also that she would be glad to see him in the home of her parents, among the people to whom she was attached.

This young hunter of the Vosges had no need to learn more, and after a few days, having informed his own family of his intentions, he set out at daybreak to make his way to her whom he had chosen to be his companion through life.

He had put on his finest garments, made from the pelt of the bear to which he owed his name; had covered his head with the tawny hide of a fox, letting his long black locks escape from this head-dress; and had shod himself with fresh wolf skins, bound high and close around his ankles. An axe hung from his belt, a bow and arrow were sus-

pended from his left shoulder, and in his right hand he carried a spear.

Although his stride appeared a little heavy, it was swift and sure, and in spite of the fact that he had many times to go out of his way to avoid obstacles, and that he spent some moments in waylaying and killing a fine deer, it took him only four hours to arrive at the end of the valley, where lived *Old Oak*, the father of *Belette*. Here he found, engaged in various occupations, Belette's parents and her younger sister, *Oak Leaf*.

At his approach, the elder of the girls went to meet him with a smile of welcome, and relieved him of the game he was carrying over his shoulder. Then, addressing himself to the head of the family, the young hunter said: "I am called Bear Slayer, and I live with my parents at the entrance of the valley, not far from the plain. I saw Belette at the last funeral ceremonies, and she told me it would give her pleasure to have me come to see you, so I have come, and have brought you this deer which I surprised by the way."

"I, too, am glad to see you," replied Old Oak, "for I have heard that you are a good, brave hunter. Lay aside your weapons and rest awhile." Then he added, after a moment's silence, "What do you want of me?"

"I want Belette," said Bear Slayer, with an affectionate look toward the girl, whose sun-browned face lighted up with naive joy. "She pleased me from the first moment I saw her, and after talking with her, I want to have her for my wife. If she consents, I will see to it that she lives in abundance, for my spear and arrows will always keep hunger

away from my dwelling. "Belette, will you go back with me, and you, Old Oak, do you consent?"

"If you will promise to be as good and kind to her as I am told you are to your parents, you may have her," replied Old Oak, "as soon as you have a lodge to receive her."

At this, Bear Slayer, in token of friendship, gave his hand to Old Oak, his wife and the young girl, Oak Leaf, and then threw his arms about Belette, who abandoned herself to his caresses. He passed the remainder of the day in the midst of the family with which he had allied himself, and when night came, slept by the side of Belette.

On the morrow of this swift and brutal betrothal, Bear Slayer returned to his parents, told them the result of his journey, and went in search of a habitation where he might set up his housekeeping. Not far from his father's dwelling he found a favorable spot, and soon had it arranged in accordance with his needs.

His father and he then set out for the home of Old Oak, and there, in the presence of a few neighbors, the parents of the two young people declared their union, and the customary banquet followed.

Belette, after being affectionately received by the mother of Bear Slayer, followed her husband to the dwelling he had prepared for her, and there they had lived together during the twenty years preceding the time when we saw them with their son, whose precocious strength had earned him the name of *Strong Arm*.

During this long period of their life, which was hard and toilsome, but happy withal, they had to bear but one unexpected sorrow. The first born

of their two boys, when he was four years old, escaped one day from the guard of his mother, and wandering a little way from the dwelling, was surprised, seized and carried off and devoured by wolves. The grief of his parents was softened by time and by the care and affection with which they guarded the second of their two children.

A few days after we saw them with Belette in front of their home, Bear Slayer and his son were preparing to go hunting, when they heard a trumpet call sound from a point further up the valley. It was a signal they well knew, and they passed it on in their turn, going out some distance toward the plain. Meanwhile, the flanks of the opposite mountains began to reverberate from point to point with similar calls sent out in the same direction.

This signaling was the result of an agreement among the aborigines of the great valley of Orbey, in accordance with which any one of them who needed the assistance of the others immediately sounded one or more alarms. These were taken up and repeated from habitation to habitation. After accomplishing this first duty, each then set out toward the point whence the signal came to him; and thus in the end they all found themselves united at the place from which it had started.

This is what now happened according to their custom; so that in less than three hours fifteen of these aborigines of the Vosges met at a dwelling situated a short distance from the gorge opening into the great valley from the deep and narrow vale in whose upper part now lies the smiling village of Frelan. In few words, as precise as they were concise, they were informed by the master of this primi-

tive dwelling, who bore the name of *Great Eagle*, that several times recently, at nightfall, a great tiger had been seen to come out from the woods whose thickets spread over the gorge, go down into the valley, drink at the stream which runs through it all the way from the lakes to the plain, and after satisfying his thirst, return as he had come, leaving so many tracks as to make a veritable trail into the underbrush from which he sallied out.

When the facts were made known, these men, more accustomed to act than to talk, spent little time deliberating. With one accord they decided to attack the murderous beast without delay, and to continue the warfare until they had either killed it or driven it out of the vicinity.

For the attack, the hunters were to be divided into two groups, one made up of the men from the head of the valley, the other of those from the vicinity of the plain. Toward night each group was to take up a position in the wood, at two or three hundred paces from the gorge, and wait until the tiger appeared. When he had gone on his way toward the river, they were to come out quickly, and after leaving a quarter of some large game on his trail, station themselves on opposite sides of it, and wait for his return. When the tiger seized upon the game to carry it off to his lair, they were to let fly their volleys of arrows, and beat a hasty retreat. These manoeuvres were to begin the next day, and to be repeated daily until the death or disappearance of the beast.

Though the arrangements were all duly made, the projected watch and attack were impracticable on the following three nights, whose twilight was

transformed by a heavy fog into dense blackness, and whose obscurity was disturbed only by muffled roars from the tiger during his excursion to the drinking place. The case was no better on the fourth night, for the sky was still lowery, so that the hunters had barely a glimpse of the animal as he emerged from the wood, without being able to distinguish the direction he took either going or coming.

The fifth day the weather was more favorable; the air was clear, and the twilight shadows were not so deep but that even comparatively small objects could be distinguished a hundred paces off. An hour before nightfall the hunters had returned to their respective posts,—seven of them on one side, led by Great Eagle, and on the other side eight, under the leadership of Bear Slayer. Motionless, silent, and hidden in the thick brush at the edge of the wood, they waited patiently until the sun had disappeared behind the high peaks of the Vosges. Soon their anxious gaze, fixed upon the space between the two groups, was rewarded by the sight of the great beast, which came out of the wood along the trail it was accustomed to follow, halted for a moment, then, confident in its great strength and scornful of danger, descended slowly toward the river, trampling down the tall grasses and weeds of the meadow through which the rushing stream flowed.

Then the hunters glided swiftly across the underbrush, coming up from either side to within thirty paces of the trail, arranged their bait—the haunch of a wild boar—a little further off and in plain sight, and again concealed themselves in the wood.

In spite of their courage and resolution, they were greatly perturbed as the moment for the hazardous encounter drew near, and they heartily wished it were past. They had not long to wait. After drinking deep at the river, the tiger turned back the way he had come. When within a hundred paces of his customary entrance to the wood, he halted, as though scenting the presence of his enemies, slowly turning his head from left to right, toward the points where they lay in hiding. Then, seeing no one, and catching the first whiff of the bait that had been thrown out for him, he crept stealthily forward, to surprise his prey, and when he had come near enough, made a formidable spring, seizing upon it with teeth and claws. Surprised at not finding it alive, he nevertheless fastened his strong jaws into it, lifted it from the ground, and started out to carry it to his den.

This was the moment for which the hunters had been waiting. As the tiger started toward the wood, they let fly their twofold volley of arrows, and then took to flight. Three only among them halted long enough to draw their bows a second time.

A number of arrows were deeply bedded in the shoulders and flanks of the tiger, but he was not yet vanquished. Drunk with pain and rage, he dropped the treacherous prey, and with his teeth began breaking off the shafts of the arrows buried in his body. This only added to his suffering, and feeling his powerlessness to free himself from the weapons that were wounding him so cruelly, he gave a roar of fury, and dashed in pursuit of the three belated hunters, the sound of whose retreat he had heard. He would certainly have been upon

them in a few bounds, had not his course been checked by the arrows in his sides continually striking against the brush and trees. But in spite of this hindrance and a copious flow of blood from his wounds, he was soon within reach of two of the fleeing men. They were Bear Slayer and Strong Arm.

Aware that they were sharing in imminent danger, and doubtless hoping to insure the safety of his son, Bear Slayer resolved to hazard a decisive struggle. He suddenly halted, and dropping on one knee with his back against a tree, lowered his head, leveled his spear and awaited the charge. An instant afterward the man was crushed under the weight of the tiger, which the new wound it received still left with enough life to tear madly at the fur coverings of its victim's body. At this moment, Strong Arm, conscious that his father was no longer near him, turned about and saw him in the murderous clutches of the tiger. He did not hesitate, but rushing upon the terrible beast, gave it a spear thrust near the shoulder, and springing aside to escape the movement it made to seize him, he twice more plunged his weapon into its body. At last it sank to the ground, its forces spent from loss of blood, and scarcely able to utter a final cry.

Bear Slayer was dead, his neck broken by the shock of the encounter. His son lifted him out of the pool of blood in which the two bodies lay, called back the other hunters by a signal from his horn, and was soon surrounded by them all.

They quickly constructed two litters and bore away the bodies of man and tiger to the home of Belette, to whom the tidings of Bear Slayer's death

had been carried already by her son, and who was giving way to her grief. All night long she lamented beside the body of her husband, where she had thrown herself down and where she remained heedless of everything around her. In the morning, her son succeeded in calming her grief.

Meanwhile, the other hunters had withdrawn their arrows from the enemy's body and removed the skin, and had made ready a burial place for Bear Slayer in a cavity of the rock. They wrapped him in the skin of the animal he had so heroically attacked the day before, and laid him to rest, filling up the entrance to his tomb with a great stone.

During the funeral feast following the burial, of which the tiger's flesh did not fail to make a part, Great Eagle briefly praised the courage and mutual devotion which the father and son had shown, and proposed that in commemoration of it the latter should hereafter bear the name of *Death-to-Tigers*.

FOURTH VIEW.

Age of the reindeer.—Glacial deluge.—A new human race.—Aryan beginnings.—Age of polished stone, of megalithic monuments; pagan walls of the Vosges.—War.—Lake dwellers.—Progress.—Beginnings of agriculture; domestic animals.—Discovery of bronze.—Characteristic episode: Tamal and Misie.

In spite of the extreme slowness with which the glacial period continued to pursue its phase of decadence, surface changes of considerable importance took place in the region comprised within the English Channel, the Atlantic Ocean, the Pyrenees, the Mediterranean, the Alps, the Jura and the Rhine—that small section of the earth which later was to form France and Belgium. The climate became more temperate. The glaciers of the lesser mountains gradually diminished and disappeared, and an abundant vegetation covered the peaks, the slopes and the valleys thus left denuded. The waters produced by the melting of so much ice, changed the contour of the valleys and overspread them with new deposits, which were carried even into the neighboring plains.

Deer with gigantic antlers, the cave bear, the cave hyena, the rhinoceros and the hippopotamus had ceased to exist in this part of Europe, and the tiger and mammoth were dying out; reindeer, the horse, and numerous species of small carnivores and herbivores now inhabited the region.

Enjoying greater security and more favorable climatic conditions, members of the human family now had an easier life. Instead of finding refuge almost entirely in caves, they multiplied their habitations under detached natural shelters, or in huts built with their own hands, in whose interior, they contrived to arrange a hearth suitable for their needs.

Instead of being scattered apart by the force of circumstances, these dwellings could be brought together in little groups, thus lending themselves to the instinctive leaning toward sociability possessed by man, which is at once the foundation and the means of his perfectibility. This instinct it was which in earlier times had made it possible to set up at certain points veritable manufactories of flint implements, the first germ of trade, and had brought about the first commercial relations, so to put it, through the habit of searching for flint in certain localities, especially in Champagne, for transportation into other localities which were without it.

The men of the reindeer epoch were not content to make all their implements out of flint; they used also the bones and antlers of the reindeer; and as the abundance of game gave them plenty of leisure, they brought these implements to great perfection, and made new ones whose smaller dimensions and more delicate outlines demanded unquestionable skill, such as needles, bodkins, barbed arrowheads, fish hooks, handles for knives and daggers, and various sorts of ornaments.

Nor were they satisfied with the improvement of their weapons and household utensils; they felt a taste for art beginning to grow within them, of which traces are found in numerous figures of men

and animals sketched on fragments of reindeer antlers, bits of ivory, or soft, flat stones.

They had abandoned their heavy fur coverings of aurochs, bear or wolf skin, for lighter garments made of reindeer skin, from which they had learned how to remove the hair, and which they made supple and durable by curing in marrow and brains. Their chief food was the flesh of reindeer and of the horses that inhabited the country in large herds.

They no longer buried their dead individually in rocky crevices, as their predecessors had done; but they placed them side by side or one above another, in more spacious cavities, which they closed with slabs of rocks, leaving near each body the weapons the man had carried in life, and even a little store of provisions, a thing which tended to show that they believed him about to continue, under other conditions, the life he had just left. The custom of the funeral feast was preserved.

Such were the general conditions in the region whose successive and diverse transformations have been described in the preceding pages, when a new cataclysm came to modify them once more. Up to this time, the rigors of the glacial period had relaxed very little; but now, no doubt because of a sudden rise of temperature at the earth's surface, there came a simultaneous and instantaneous melting of the ice all over Europe, leaving intact only that which then charged and still charges the loftiest peaks of the highest mountains. The tremendous quantity of water this set free at all these points at once, caused overwhelming floods, which everywhere tore up the soil, laying waste valleys and plains, washing out deep ravines, and leaving vast

deposits of boulders, alluvium and mud. Is that rich, clayey loam which covers parts of the valleys of the Rhine and Rhone, due to these floods alone, or did they do no more than add to a deposit which had been made there already during the upheaval of the final Alpine groups? However it may be, this stratum acquired a great thickness, and extends so far as to cover even a considerable portion of Belgium.

This European deluge, due to that precipitate melting of the ice which brought the glacial period to a close, caused the disappearance from the region, either by extermination or emigration, of a great number of animals, and of that race of men which was contemporary with the mammoth and the reindeer; if a few individuals of this primitive race were able to survive, they were absorbed in the new human family then appearing in the places they had inhabited.

Scientists are agreed in considering these new inhabitants of Europe to be natives of the Caucasus, driven from their homes by the cold which had settled over its lofty mountains, and wandering until they reached this far region, to become, under the generic name of Aryans, the successors of the earlier European race.

It is needless to describe here the form and features which distinguished this Caucasian race, since it has endured to the present age, and with the exception of some slight variations due to climate or differing customs, possessed the same characteristics that it has in modern times.

In the early period of their appearance in Europe, these new people's ways of life were little different

from those of the race they had displaced, and scarcely better; but step by step they succeeded in improving their condition. Along the coast they lived chiefly upon shell-bearing sea animals and fish, as is shown by heaps of refuse that have been found in the department of the Pas de Calais, and especially in Denmark. The dwellers on lake or river banks learned to add the products of fishing to those of the chase; for eventually they made nets and dugouts, numbers of which have been found buried in alluvial or lake-shore deposits, and in the peat-beds whose formation was subsequent to that of the latest alluvial land. The reindeer, now confined to the north, had disappeared from these regions, as had also the numerous bands of horses which formerly roamed through them; but the hunters found an abundance of red deer, wild boars, and numerous other hairy or feathered game, and it seems to be established beyond a doubt that they were skillful enough to domesticate the dog. The brown bear and the wolf were the only animals they still had to fear and to fight. The climate, now greatly moderated, no longer imposed the necessity of covering the whole body with furs, as in the age of the mammoths, nor even in the less cumbersome garments of reindeer skin which had been worn later in the same age. It now sufficed to cover the shoulders and loins with the lighter and more supple pelt of the roe-deer and other smaller animals.

The influence of these new conditions, favorable to the central region of western Europe, was also favorable to the progress of its inhabitants. Their numbers increased rapidly; their open air shelters and huts were modified into more substantial dwell-

ings, which were made from the trunks and branches of trees, and commenced to take on the aspect of thatched cottages; and they began to build these in groups, thus laying the earliest foundations for the formation of clans, tribes and peoples.

But the thing which above all others characterizes this epoch of humanity is the improvement in implements. Hitherto, excepting a few objects fashioned out of reindeer antlers, they had been made solely of rough flint; from this time on, polished flint was used, and in addition skillfully worked stag horn. Axes, knives, saws, and the heads of arrows, javelins and pikes, were no longer made of anything but polished flint, and were fitted into handles by sockets of stag horn cunningly adapted to the purpose.

For instance, an axe consisted of a stout blade of polished flint, well sharpened, and firmly fixed in a socket of stag horn, the latter being pierced a little way back by a hole through which a strong hard wood handle was introduced at right angles.

The antlers of the red deer and other bony structures were used with much greater skill and art than had been shown in utilizing the antlers of the reindeer, and were made to serve for a large number of small tools and ornaments. Among the things which witness to man's mechanical labors in this age so far in our past, it remains for us to mention the debris of pottery or terra cotta utensils.

It is to the age of polished stone that dolmens, menhirs and cromlechs belong, those ancient monuments which were long attributed to the Celts, and designated under the name of Druidcal stones. By objects found with them, it is made evident that

they belong to the time of the prehistoric race with which we are dealing.

The *dolmens* were great slabs of rock raised upon rock pillars, thus making a covered space and even long galleries. Here the dead were buried, either singly or in groups, the bodies being covered with earth heaped up to form the rounded mounds that bear the name of *tumuli*, and that frequently attained to large dimensions.

Near these burial places, great vertical pillars of rock called *menhirs* were often raised, and when they were arranged in a circle or rectangle around a tumulus, the place thus enclosed became a *crom-lech*. These imposing witnesses to the labors of men in the nearest prehistoric times, are nowhere more numerous than in Brittany, where one may yet see, near Carnac, the celebrated field of *standing stones*, consisting of eleven parallel rows of vertical stone columns extending for the distance of a kilometer.

With these megalithic structures of the epoch of polished stone, belong some discovered at different points in our own regions, which must certainly have served the men who established them as defensive fortifications. These intrenched camps, many of which are found in certain sections of Belgium, and stand for the most part on heights overlooking deep valleys, are in the form of thick walls built of great stone blocks, fitted together, but without mortar.

To this species of defensive works belongs unquestionably the one which under the name of the *Pagan Wall*, runs along over several of our mountains of the Vosges, a portion of it being near Ten-

nichel, above the valley of Ribeauville. There one is astounded to find yet, extending for a distance of two kilometers, enormous blocks of stone aligned and built up in the manner of a wall, whose thickness and height both range from two to three meters, and which frequently rests against the bases of great rocks that figure in it like towers.

A portion of the Pagan Wall still more imposing, stretches for fifteen kilometers along the crests of the Vosges in the vicinity of the height occupied by the ancient convent of Sainte-Odile. As at Tenichel, this cyclopean wall is formed of powerful rocks, aligned and regularly built, and sometimes presenting holes, doubtless used for trussing it up with wooden braces.

Were these imposing megalithic structures of Alsace, whose remains may also be found upon many other summits of the Vosges, independent of one another, each belonging to a limited fortified area, or were they all part of a common line of defence established above the chief passes of the chain? They fail to answer this question, but they offer abundant proof that in the epoch of polished stone, Alsace was inhabited by a people numerous enough and energetic enough to carry out works thus extensive, and so astonishing from the view point of the poverty of mechanical means that must have sufficed for producing them. Unfortunately they also prove, that in Alsace as elsewhere where ruined fortifications are found, the people were thus early exposed to the evils of war.

This fatal scourge of humanity always appears as soon as there are formed at any distance apart, groups of men, that are not bound together by com-

mon ties. An accidental meeting between individuals belonging to different groups, is enough to bring about quarrels, rivalries and hatreds, which all the other members of the respective tribes soon make their own. It is also true that no community of men ever exists without someone of their number coming to rule in it by reason of superior strength, daring, or intelligence. Once risen to leadership among his companions, he continually seeks to gain authority over them, and to extend the area of their dominions, to the disadvantage of their neighbors. In this way the first warfare must have arisen among prehistoric men; for they were not led to be quarrelsome by drunkenness, of whose excesses they were ignorant, nor by the desire of seizing upon one another's riches, since of riches they were all alike destitute.

The few preceding pages make it easy to understand the sanguinary conflict which once broke out between two tribes inhabiting severally the two extremities of the beautiful and picturesque Vosges Valley of Saint Amarin. One of these tribes dwelt at the head of the valley, above the point where the *Thur* runs through the meadows that stretch out between the flanks of the mountains, and by a deep and voluminous fall plunges into a rocky basin known in our time by the name of *Haidenbad* or Pagan Bath. From the number of badgers' burrows (*terriers de blaireaux*) in the vicinity, the little clan under the chief *Kerad* had come to be known as the *Blairaks*. Twenty kilometers away, in the direction of the plain, and not far from the present sites of the town of Thann and the village of Wattwiller, well known as a watering place, on account

of its mineral springs, lived the other tribe, a little smaller in numbers than the first, and under the patriarchal authority of *Faroc*. Their success as hunters of the beavers (*castors*) in the ponds formed along the borders of the Thur by the waters from the neighboring hillsides and by the river's overflow, had led them to choose the name of *Castrins*.

One day when the men of the tribe were hunting midway up the valley, they saw a deer break through the brush at the edge of a wood they were about to enter. They were near enough to reach it with their arrows, two of which sufficed to bring it to earth, and in a moment they were upon it and had ended its life by a blow on the head. They then saw for the first time that it bore in one of its buttocks the broken shaft of a third arrow, which must have struck it only a short time before, as was evident from the freshness of the wound. Without giving much heed to the matter, they rested awhile beside their booty, and were preparing to take it away, when they saw three hunters of the tribe of the Blairaks advancing rapidly toward them; these men had been following an hour or two along the trail of the animal they had wounded, and now claimed it on the ground that in the end it would not have been able to escape them. The *Castrins* pointed out that the wound was not so grave but that the deer might have kept its liberty, perhaps even have saved its life, and that consequently it was the property of those who had killed it. The conflicting claims of the two little groups of hunters led to a discussion which became more and more animated, grew into an exchange of epithets,

and ended in a violent assault. One of the Castrins was wounded and forced to flee with his companions, who managed to get him back, weak from loss of blood, to the dwelling place of their clan.

Their arrival produced a great commotion among their clansmen. Indignation broke loose on all sides, and only the resolution to take speedy vengeance held the enraged and exasperated people under any control.

On their side, the Blairaks did not fail to foresee the reprisals they had to expect, and they judged it necessary to take defensive measures. They threw up barricades against the high rocks at the foot of the mountain, and on top of these rocks they collected great stones intended to be hurled down upon an advancing enemy. To protect the approaches to their station from the side of the valley, they screened them by stockades of felled trees set up in a serried row. In spite of the promptness with which these works were executed, they were barely finished when the scouts that had been despatched in various directions beat a retreat to announce the arrival of the enemy.

The fact was that a band of thirty Castrins had stealthily advanced during the night, under cover of the forest, in the hope of surprising the station of the Blairaks in the early hours of the morning. Believing their adversaries to be unsuspecting and undefended, they boldly charged in the direction of the dwellings which they knew to be accessible from the side of the valley; but they were checked by the barricade of trees, and by a discharge of arrows that showed the failure of their attempted surprise, and the necessity of a fight. They bravely joined

battle, and across the leafy branches of the barricade the arrows sped, wounding and killing both assailants and defenders. On the side of the mountain, the attack was no more fortunate, the stones which the Blairaks hurled from the rocks overhead preventing all approach there. The struggle was thus reduced to a battle between the archers, and could not end otherwise than with the retreat of the Castrins.

At this point, one of the attacking party, *Tamal*, the son of the Chief, noted among his companions for his activity and daring, drew some of his followers away toward the side of the mountain, and persuaded them to climb it, in the hope of reaching the summit of the rocks held by the besieged, and driving them out in a struggle whose success should give victory to the Castrins. The little group of men that executed this manœuvre, succeeded in arriving on the rocks of which they hoped to gain possession; but they found themselves outnumbered by the opposing party, and after a hand to hand encounter they were forced to flee, leaving Tamal unconscious on the field, with an axe wound in his breast. Thus repulsed at every point of their attack, the Castrins retreated and returned to their homes, bearing with them two dead and five wounded, and leaving the body of Tamal at the mercy of their enemies.

The brave youth, whom a few hours had transformed from a hunter into a warrior, was now in the hands of those he had so boldly attacked. He was still unconscious, but the blood flowing from his wound showed that he lived. A number of the Blairaks would have put an end to him, in order

to avenge the death of one of their own number and the wounds of several others; but they were restrained by their Chief, who was well enough satisfied by his victory, and wished to keep the young warrior as a hostage, in case the Castrins should meditate fresh attacks upon his tribe. He had Tamal carried into an empty cabin, and confided him to the care of some of the women, who stanchd his wound and dressed it with healing herbs that they had learned to be efficacious. When after a little time he came to himself, he was astonished and gratified to be the object of so much care, and to see among his nurses a beautiful young girl, called *Misie* by her companions whom he soon learned to be the daughter of Kerad.

Tamal's wound, not so bad as it appeared, was not to prove mortal; he had been made unconscious by the violence of the blow he had received and the loss of blood. His extreme weakness and the soothing influence of the care given his wound, soon plunged him into a profound sleep which lasted a number of hours. When he awoke he saw the young *Misie* on guard beside the bed of mosses and furs where they had laid him. At once, she offered him an herb tea, which he drank eagerly, to quench his burning thirst, and then she gave him some very simple food. After that, with another woman's aid, she redressed his wound, and the relative comfort all these attentions gave him brought sleep to Tamal again. In this way a number of days were passed between refreshing sleep and the assiduous care of the two or three women, among whom *Misie* showed the greatest zeal. Then his strength began to return and his wound to heal, and the certainty

of his speedy recovery so cooled the ardor of his nurses that had it not been for the constant solicitude of Misie, he would have been left almost to himself.

The age in which these two young people lived was already very remote and very different from the one in which the attraction between the sexes was almost wholly instinctive, the intelligence playing little part. The men of this new human race, considerably superior to those contemporaneous with the mammoth and the reindeer, possessed ideas of a more extended order, and their bent for improving their implements and embellishing their ornaments, make it evident that they were sensitive to the effect of form, and already capable, at least to a degree, of appreciating the beauty of beings and things. From these newly awakened faculties there was sure to result an appreciable degree of elevation in the relation of the sexes. The matter of deliberate choice entered into it more largely, and so, depending upon taste, it grew into a sentiment. To assure the continuance of the race, nature had given the primitive people of the earlier ages the mutual affections of mother, father and child; but she seems to have reserved for the posterity of their successors the experience of love from sentiment and predilection.

This was the love which drew together Misie and Tamal in their youth and beauty. Both had hair of chestnut brown, fine and soft; great brown eyes, oval faces richly tanned, and regular and symmetrical features, and they were alike tall and slim, with elegance and grace in Misie and strength and added stature in Tamal. Their faces differed in that the

girl's was mobile and sweet, while the youth's was calm and affable and given character by a full, short beard, smooth and warm in tint. Misie could not look upon her handsome wounded warrior and nurse him without loving him; and Tamal, as his forces returned, felt a passion for the engaging girl who had saved his life, grow with his gratitude.

But if this was no longer the age of purely instinctive attraction, no more was it one of hesitancy in love, or of those unhappy passions which the obstacles born of civilization have often engendered later on. The young people confessed their love to each other, and would have been entirely happy had it not been for the grave circumstances under which they had come to know and love one another.

Indeed, as soon as the recovery of Tamal became complete, he would be taken from the care of Misie, treated as a captive, watchfully guarded, and perhaps even put to death, in case the Castrins attempted a fresh attack upon the Blairaks. Terrified at the thought of this threatening future, the girl resolved to save her lover by aiding him to escape before he should be really subjected to its dangers by his recovery, and she confided to him her determination to send him away from her as soon as he should be able to bear the journey. At first Tamal stoutly refused to go unless she would consent to follow him; but she assured him of her fixed determination not to desert her tribe nor to leave her father, who had no one belonging to him but her. After long discussions, in which regret, tenderness, the pain of separation and the hope of meeting again when time should end the hostility between their

clans, were in turn in the ascendancy, Tamal at length submitted to Misie's will.

She did not delay the carrying out of her plan, but began by plausible pretexts to try to get rid of the women who had hitherto aided her in caring for Tamal, and above all to keep away the men, who sometimes came to inform themselves of the state of their prisoner. Then one dark night, after making sure that all the members of the tribe were asleep in their dwellings, she went to the cabin where they had still left Tamal, whom they supposed yet unable to leave it. This, however, he made out to do, with Misie's help, and she silently conducted him for some distance in the direction he must take in order to return to the station of the Castrins. Although cheered by their hopes for the future, they found it very hard to part, and the expression of tenderness between them only increased the hardship of the separation. After their adieux, Misie slipped back unobserved to her home, and Tamal made his way toward his, where after long hours he arrived, overcome by fatigue and suffering. He was received by his tribe with so much the more joy because they had supposed him dead, and had bewailed their inability to avenge him after their defeat and the Blairaks' victory.

As for the Blairaks, they were greatly exasperated by the escape of their prisoner, whom they had thought too ill and weak to slip out of their hands, and they never knew that it was due to the bravery and devotion of Misie and to his own moral as well as physical force. They did not miss him until it was too late for pursuit.

In the hands of his mother, and surrounded by

evidences of the devotion of his father and of the other Castrins with whom he had fought so bravely a few weeks before, Tamal soon fully regained his strength. He learned with satisfaction that his tribe had given up all idea of a fresh struggle with the Blairaks, whom they considered to be protected from any reprisals they might attempt, both by their superiority in numbers, and the advantageous position of their village. In order to avoid any possible conflict, the Castrins were careful not to go too far up the valley, but made their hunting expeditions in the direction of the plain.

Persuaded that no new act of hostility between the two tribes was threatened, Tamal, at length completely recovered from his wound and the weakness resulting from it, took up again the old course of his life; but he did not experience the satisfaction it had hitherto given him.

Endowed with an intelligence superior to that of others of his race, he was also in advance of them in his moral ideas, and in the loftier sentiments inspired in him by gratitude for the care of Misie and by the beauty of the girl whose tender affection had perhaps saved his life, and had surely given him his liberty. So the gracious image of her whom he loved was always in his mind and heart, to distract his attention from things around him, and to make him indifferent to his occupations. Convinced that some time must pass before such friendly relations could be established between the Blairaks and the Castrins that he might return to Misie and renew the broken bonds of their courtship, he resolved to leave his people and make a journey into far countries.

His imagination had long been stirred by the aspect of grandeur the distant mountains wore for him, when in the early morning or late afternoon he turned his gaze in a direction midway between the opposite points where the sun rose and set. What he saw was the imposing chain of the Alps upborne in air, with the immensities of their snowy flanks, and their jagged crests whose countless ridges the sun dyes with tints of pink and blue. He resolved to go nearer to this marvelous spectacle, and to carry out the project during the time which must pass before he could again see Misie.

The preparations for his journey were soon made, as he had nothing to carry but his weapons, his ordinary garments and a few little bundles of dried vegetable matter, to serve as tinder for the sparks he should strike with his flint.

When he had said goodbye to his parents and the other members of his tribe, and had promised not to delay his return too long, he set out on his travels by a route along the foothills of the Vosges.

It would be tedious to accompany him step by step through his long pilgrimage; let it suffice to point out in a general way how he was able to accomplish it. His plan was to reach each day a new station of the aborigines, where he rested and got the information necessary to guide him to the next station on the day following. If the distance was too great to be covered in one day's march, he camped in the woods, or took refuge in some cavity of rock or earth, or even established himself among the great branches of a tree, as he often enough had to do, in order to be safe from the attack of little bands of wolves which were everywhere about. He

came upon many swamps which he skirted, and streams and rivers which he forded or crossed on fallen trees, or even swam over, for he had known how to swim from childhood, learning in those pools near the station of his tribe, that are formed by mountain streams or the overflow of the Thur.

He was generally well received in the habitations scattered along the route he followed, and it sometimes even happened that he tarried two or three days in a place; but elsewhere he had a bad reception, was suspected of some hostile intention, and held captive until it became evident that his presence had brought no misfortune. Once or twice he found himself obliged to change his route in order to avoid localities where two tribes were actually at war.

It was this last cause, which on the third day of his journey, obliged him to turn away from the Vosges and proceed in the direction of the plain, making his way through the forests and openings on the side of the rising sun. Beyond them he crossed an undulating country interspersed with hills, where he saw the source of the Ill, the most important river of Alsace. After two more day's journeys, he arrived at the bank of a wide river, whose strong, swift current filled him with wonderment, and he followed up its course on his way toward the distant mountains which he looked upon as his journey's end. At different points as he went along, he was deeply moved by the sight of the rapids of Lauffen, the fine cataract of the Rhine, and the imposing size of the Lake of Constance. But greatly impressed as he was by the grandeur of these aspects of nature, so new and strange to his ignorance, he was still more wonderstruck at the

sight of human habitations built over the very waters of the lake.

The young native of the Vosges was looking upon a village of lake dwellers. A few feet from the shore, long rows of piles began, great and high, set vertically in the water. Upon these a platform had been constructed of planks laid close together. On this artificial ground, that lay outstretched at almost a man's height above the level of the water, stood in regular rows substantial thatched cottages built of wood. In the open spaces between them women and children were moving about, and old people were sitting. On the lake, not far from this village thus suspended between water and air, great tree trunks that had been dug out their whole length of seven or eight feet, were being propelled over the surface by means of heavy sticks with a wide flat surface at the end, in the hands of some of the men in them, while others were casting out into the water, to draw them in presently full of fish, strange objects of limp and light material full of holes, some of them outspread, others taking the form of great pockets.

Such was the marvelous spectacle which offered itself to Tamal's eyes, filling him with wonder and delight. He approached, not without emotion, and halted beside a man busy in straightening the position of some movable planks which made a passage-way from the shore to the aquatic town.

Tamal was kindly received among these people, and spent several days with them, meanwhile acquiring the craft of making the fish nets he had so much admired on his arrival. His appreciation of the things he saw here, awakened for the first time

in his mind thought of the progress which man may make in his work, and the new conception gave him a glimpse of the good he might do for his tribe by introducing among them improvements he might see among people he had not yet visited. With his thoughts tending in this direction, he gave up his original plan of going to the great ice-topped mountains,—whose long chain he now indeed saw stretched out not far away,—and decided to continue his explorations in regions easier of access and consequently more populous.

The farther away he went from his native place the more difficult Tamal found it to talk understandingly with the inhabitants of the regions he passed through; nevertheless, when he left the strange village of the Lake of Constance,—over whose waters, as he learned, there were thirty others like it,—he was able to inform himself sufficiently well to direct his way toward the villages of the Lake of Zurich, and again, in leaving there, to reach some towns of the same nature on the Lakes of Birne, Lempach and Morat. And here he found a new subject for wonder and admiration.

This was the making of weapons and tools, not from polished flint but from a material only just beginning to be known, which was obtained by exposing to an ardent heat a mixture of charcoal with two mineral substances that in our day are called copper pyrites and oxide of tin.

From this mixture there resulted a fusible substance, which, being run into moulds hollowed out of sand or earth, formed axes, spear points, arrow-heads, knives, daggers, fish hooks, various household utensils, and more delicate objects such as bod-

kins, pins and needles, and ornamental pieces. These were the first fruits of the discovery of bronze.

Tamal prolonged his stay among the possessors of this earliest metal wealth, until he had been given specimens of it in exchange for the zeal with which he had worked in it himself; then he again turned westward, and making the Jura passes, he found himself once more in France, where he had been told there were also many lake dwellers, in Savoy and along the banks of the two rivers that to-day we call the Isere and the Saone.

For a long time Tamal continued his explorations of the regions to the west of the Jura and Alps, making observations of the progress that had been made by the tribes inhabiting them. In some places he saw the first attempts at agriculture, in the cultivation of plants producing nourishing seeds. After being carefully gathered, these seeds were crushed by means of a smooth oval stone, in a larger stone which had been hollowed out like a trough, and the flour resulting from the process, mixed with water, made a paste, that was baked into little cakes on flat stones heated in the fire.

Frequently Tamal found in general use pottery made of soft clay which had been baked and hardened by the heat of fire, or simply in the sun. And then, among the most intelligent of these people, he was equally astonished and delighted by the sight of sheep, goats, and even some oxen of the urus tribe, reduced to a state of domestication; and, best of all, dogs obedient to man and affectionately attached to him.

It would have been to Tamal like the coming true of a beautiful dream, if he might have taken

back with him to his own country some of these various animals; but he saw the impossibility of that, and thought himself fortunate to get possession of a pair of young dogs, and to have them follow him to his journey's end.

This journey had lasted for fifteen months, when Tamal finally returned to his tribe. He was received with transports of delight, which turned into manifestations of the greatest enthusiasm when the story of his travels was told, and the things he had brought back were displayed. Especially admired were the dogs, in form and size, in their erect ears and their tawny coats, so much like the wolves, yet as gentle and affectionate as the wolves were wild and ferocious.

Tamal was rejoiced to learn that friendly relations had been re-established between the two tribes of his native valley, and waiting only to pass a few days with his parents, he hastened away to his well-beloved Misie, returning to the Blairaks, not as a captive now, but as a friend, and the bearer of useful knowledge. Already informed of the success of his wanderings, Kerad and his tribe received him joyfully, and were not surprised at the signs of affection given him by Misie as she led him to her father's cabin.

Among the treasures he had brought back from his journey were three bronze axes. He had given one to Faroc, he now offered another to Kerad, reserving the third for his own use. To this rich present he added a lance head, two arrowheads, a knife, and a dagger, of the same metal, and into the hands of his beloved he put bodkins, pins, needles, and a necklace of bronze disks strung on

a cord, whose metallic splendor surpassed anything hitherto seen in the valley of Saint-Amarin.

Rejoicing in the possession of his new weapons, Kerad left his hut to offer them to the general admiration, and finding themselves alone together, Tamal and Misie rushed into each others arms. Their joy is not difficult to imagine, especially that of Misie, who had carried all this time in her memory a picture of the Tamal wounded, weak and suffering, whom she had painfully helped along his homeward journey; while now she felt round her the strong arms of this fine and sturdy explorer, whose travels were the admiration of everybody.

A few days later, Tamal, accompanied by his father, came to ask of Kerad the hand of Misie. It was quickly granted him, to the mutual satisfaction of the tribes, and in each of them the customary betrothal feast was promptly given. This feast was preceded by the ceremony of the sacrifices which the betrothed man and woman were required to make to the *genii* or *Superior Spirits* in whom the men of that epoch had already adopted a belief. Under the guidance of the two most aged men of their tribes, Tamal and Misie went first to the cascade of the *Heidenbad*, and threw various small objects into the basin where it plunges from the rocks above, as an offering to the *Genius of Water*; then they turned to lay some fruit and portions of small game at the foot of one of the largest oaks in the neighboring forest, as an act of homage to the *Spirit of the Woods*; and to crown all, on a sacrificial pile erected near the station of Misie's tribe, they burned bunches of flowers, small leafy branches, tufts of grass and mosses and por-

tions of birds, as a pious rite before the *Spirit of Winds and Storms*.

In spite of the intoxicating joy of at last possessing Misie, Tamal did not lose his interest in the progressive ideas he had got on his travels, nor in his projects to better the conditions of life among his fellows of the Vosges; and he found a number of followers among the younger men. As a result of his advice, groups of Castrins and Blairaks set out at frequent intervals to journey into distant quarters in search of new things, and especially to get possession of domestic animals. In groups of two, at Tamal's suggestion, they scattered in different directions by routes leading to the south and west of their native country. These expeditions were continued for a number of years, and were more or less successful, never failing to be of some utility.

The intellectual superiority of Tamal, the knowledge he had acquired, and his efforts in behalf of their greater welfare so endeared him to the inhabitants of the valley, that with the consent of his father and Misie's he was chosen supreme head of the two tribes, which thenceforth, in spite of the distance between their stations, were merged into one.

Thus long years rolled by, bringing with them ever increasing betterment of conditions. The dwellings were roomier and better constructed; the hunters had the companionship of vigorous dogs, the progeny of the two brought back from his wanderings by Tamal, which aided them in the chase, even when they pursued bears, wolves, the aurochs, or the wild boar. The crop of wild fruits gathered

in the forests was larger, more varied and better husbanded; some attempts at the cultivation of nourishing roots began to succeed; many goats and sheep were pastured about the two villages, and some calves had just been introduced. Weapons and utensils of bronze were gradually finding their way among these people, and coming into more general use.

It was not until they had seen all these changes gradually accomplished, that Tamal and Misie, weighed down with years, died in the arms of their children, carrying with them to their graves the regret of all the members of their tribes, and even of neighboring hordes, that the improvements introduced in the valley of Saint-Amarin had not left without emulation, nor without some successful attempts at imitation.

FIFTH VIEW.

The bronze age.—Progress and the iron age.—End of pre-historic times.—The Iberians.—The Celts.—The Aquitanians.—The Ligurians.—The Massaliotes.—The Cimbri.—Gallic expeditions.

The use of polished stone among the hordes of Europe continued no longer than was required for the establishment of the use of bronze, which was its superior in all ways, being better adapted to the manufacture of weapons and utensils, and at the same time more serviceable. One great advantage of this metal is the ease with which it may be forged and manipulated generally, when it has been suddenly cooled, while gradual cooling renders it hard and durable; thus it can be shaped at will by the first process, and hardened after the desired form has been attained.

Bronze foundries and manufactories were established at different points where the necessary crude material was to be procured, and constituted an important industry of the period, which was followed by a corresponding and not less beneficial commercial development extending to all the European tribes. The relations thus formed among these peoples, were strengthened and multiplied by the interest roused in the possession and propagation of

domestic animals and cultivated plants, of which at first only a few tribes had learned to avail themselves. These two things may be looked upon as having produced the very germs of civilization and of the transformation of the life of the chase into pastoral and agricultural life.

In order to show the progress made during the bronze age, it is only necessary to refer to traces of it that have been found by the exploration of tumuli in some of those dolmens which time has denuded of the heaped-up earth originally covering them; or among the remains of the lake dwellers' towns. The number and variety of weapons, utensils, and ornaments such as necklaces and bracelets, and of small implements like pins, needles and bodkins, are most remarkable.

In place of the crude pottery, misshapen and covered with corrugations, which belonged to the age of polished stone, the men of the bronze age made vases and other things out of terra cotta, fine in texture, with a smooth surface, and in a variety of shapes, frequently ornamented with designs, and sometimes of sufficiently great dimensions to serve as receptacles for grain.

The presence of a number of these large jars, with some of their contents, proves conclusively, as also does that of bronze sickles, that during this period barley, wheat, and oats were cultivated. The grains were no longer crushed in a stone trough by using a smooth stone as a pestle, but the device of a stationary mill-stone with a free one turning upon it by means of a transverse lever, was already known.

From the fibres of bark, the men of this age made

ropes and cords to be woven into fish nets, while from those of flax and afterward of hemp, they achieved the making of threads which they had the ingenuity to weave into cloth, and this now began to take the place of skins for clothing. The discovery of a number of coffins in a tumulus in Denmark, has also made it clear that in this country at least the art of spinning wool was already known; for the body in one of them had been wrapped in woolen garments.

The possession of domestic animals and cultivated plants, added very considerable resources to those of hunting and fishing for the nutrition of the men of the age of bronze. In the early part of the epoch, they continued to bury their dead in tumuli and dolmens, with weapons and implements beside them; but toward its close they began to cremate the bodies of the dead, and to enclose the ashes in urns. A number of these urns have been recently discovered, and we shall cite a remarkable example, found in the exploration of a tumulus near Lubeck. In the upper stratum of this tumulus, in the loose earth, a skeleton was buried together with some iron implements; two meters below were found small stone receptacles holding mortuary urns and filled with calcined bones mingled with necklaces, pins and a knife, all of bronze. At the bottom of the tumulus were stone slabs forming a cave-like structure that contained human bones and axes of rough flint.

These superimposed sepulchres well represent the order of succession of the rough stone, the bronze, and the iron ages, and they would tell a complete story if a fourth, containing articles made from pol-

ished stone, were found between those of the ages of bronze and of rough stone.

The discovery of iron was altogether more complicated than that of bronze, the former not being fusible in even the most ardent heat employed in the earlier age. It was extracted by processes still to be seen in operation among the tribes of Northern Tartary and of Senegal. A stone oven was built into the side of a hillock, and was charged first with wood, then with thin alternate layers of charcoal and the very common minerals formed by oxides of iron. This mixture was covered by a vaulted roof of earth, with an opening at the summit; then through an opening beneath, fire was set to the wood. By this process, the charcoal was made to deoxidize the iron, and little porous masses of the reduced metal were deposited at the bottom of the furnace. By uniting a sufficient number of these, raising them to a glowing heat, and repeatedly hammering them out, they were welded into lumps, and then, by a series of similar operations, into bars of iron suitable for fashioning into any desired shape, under the action of fire and the hammer.

At first the use of iron was intermingled with that of bronze, as the use of bronze had originally been associated with that of polished stone and horn. In the iron age, gold, silver and lead began to be known, and also the art of making pottery on a wheel, which had hitherto been shaped by hand. The more or less complete incineration of the body was the burial practice.

Before the close of the iron age, industries and commerce had made considerable progress, as had also farming and grazing, mules and pigs having

been added to the sheep, goats, cattle and horses of earlier times. Even the use of small bronze coins has been attributed to this early age.

It was through great upheavals of the European territory, that the race contemporary with the mammoth and the reindeer disappeared from that part of the world at the close of the age of rough stone, to give place to the Aryans, who were characterized by the use of polished stone. On the other hand, it was by slow and almost insensible transitions, that humanity passed from this age to that of bronze, from the bronze age to the iron age, and finally into the ages revealed to us by the earliest annals of peoples.

The opening pages of history give the name of Iberians to the inhabitants of the countries toward which our eyes are turned, and they tell us that two thousand years before the modern era, their country was invaded from the north by the *Celts*, *Gaels* or *Gauls*. These latter drove the Iberians back across the Garonne, pursuing them even into Spain. Here pursued and pursuers eventually settled together, establishing an amalgamated race, the Celtiberians. The Iberians, however, under the name of Aquitanians, remained the dominant race to the south of the Garonne and in the Pyrenees region, and also along the Mediterranean shores, under the name of Ligurians.

The Ligurian people held important commercial relations with the Phoenicians a thousand years before Christ, and the founding of Nîmes and Alesia is even attributed to the latter people. To the Phoenicians succeeded the Rhodians, whose settlements had lost all importance when the Phocæans

under Euxenus came to found Massilia or Marseille, six hundred years before the Christian era.

At the same time the Cimbri, under the leadership of *Hu-le-puissant*, descended upon the north of Gaul. They were not able to dispossess the Gauls of their territory, and only succeeded in mingling with them in the western sections, along the ocean, and in some unimportant portions of the interior, which for the most part remained entirely Celtic, as did all the eastern section bounded by the Jura and the Rhine.

It was from these latter regions that there set forth, in the year 587 B. C., the two great expeditions of the Sigovaci and the Bellovaci, the former of whom went to found a colony on the banks of the Danube, at the foot of the Illyrian Alps, and the latter to found Cisalpine Gaul, in the north of Italy.

In the year 39 B. C., thirty thousand Gallic Senones, led by their chief or *Bran*, overcame a Roman army on the banks of the Allia and captured Rome, whose last defenders were intrenched within the walls. After having laid waste the city and plundered it, they were driven out by the successful onslaught of Camillus, and a greater part of them were massacred.

A hundred years later, an army of Tectosages went out from among the Gauls to pillage Macedonia and Greece, and established themselves in Asia Minor, in the country which took from them the name of Galatia.

At different periods of this epoch, great numbers of Gallic warriors served as mercenaries in the armies of the kings of Asia, who were quarreling

over their shares in the heritage of Alexander the Great, and also in the armies of Pyrrhus and of Hannibal.

SIXTH VIEW.

The Gauls two centuries before the modern era.—Their characteristics and customs.—Patricians, Druids and people.—Gallic divinities.—The Gallic nations of Alsace. Struggles with the Germans.—Characteristic episode: Rodwig and Diela.

Two hundred years before our own time, the Gauls no longer formed a single nation, mingling together and living under the same customs and with the same institutions—Iberians, Gaels and Cimbri alike. This great people did not now know anything like unity, but were divided into nearly eighty distinct sections, which were governed by their respective chiefs, known generally as Vergobreti.

The greater part of the country was covered with forests, and in their natural openings or in artificial clearings, the Gauls set up their houses of wood and thatch, and formed their villages, surrounding them by palisades of pickets and madriers. The extent of cultivated ground about these villages was proportional to their importance. The towns, already numerous, were strongly fortified and also surrounded by cultivated fields.

Sheltered by the vast forests, the land abounded in springs, brooks, swamps, and water courses,

which rendered the climate moist and the atmosphere frequently heavy and tempestuous.

The inhabitants of the country were tall and hardy, well built and very active. They had clear cut, oval faces, with fair skin, brown or blue eyes, and hair brown, blonde or sometimes red, which they wore long, raising it above the head in the form of horns. They allowed a long and heavy moustache to cover the upper lip, and their whole aspect was one of alertness and the strength which is demanded and developed by the habits of hunters and warriors.

They lived upon acorns and other forest fruits, bread, milk, butter, cheese, the flesh of their domestic animals, especially pork, and numerous kinds of game, of which the aurochs, deer, and wild boar were the most sought after. For fermented drinks, they had beer made by the fermentation of barley, and hydromel, which they obtained from that of honey.

The garments of the Gauls consisted of breeches, covering the leg; a shirt, a short tunic falling no lower than the knee and resembling our modern blouse; a surtout or short cloak, and leather foot-gear. The women's costume differed from the men's in the greater length of the tunic, and the addition of necklaces, bracelets, rings and a girdle.

The chief weapons and armor of the Gallic warriors were swords, axes, daggers, lances, javelins, shields, and different kinds of helmets, generally without crests. Some of the Gauls fought on foot, others on horseback, and still others in chariots drawn by two horses, which they also used in barricading their camps.

The Roman historians, their enemies, pictured our ancestors as naturally kind and hospitable, faithful friends, sincere and loyal, scorning subterfuge and lies, brave even to rashness, prompt in initiative, endowed with an active and penetrating mind and a vivid imagination, liking to talk and to listen, highly inquisitive, given to railing and joking, and great lovers of liberty; but at the same time the contemporary chronicles accused them of being careless, fickle, boastful, hot-headed, quarrelsome, inclined to drunkenness, and barbaric in their superstitions. Such as they were, they treated the women of their households with great respect, consulting them in even the weightiest matters, and often taking them into war.

They were dexterous workers in metals, glass, pottery and woven fabrics, and they appear to have been the inventors of wheeled ploughs, horse-hair sieves, and hooped casks.

Their funerals were conducted with much pomp, and articles to which the dead had been attached were burned with their bodies, as were domestic animals, slaves, and sometimes even relatives. The most cruel sacrifices were not repugnant to these men, and they thought to appease the anger of their gods and save the lives of the sick, by putting some dependent to death. On more general and important occasions, they sacrificed a number of victims at a time, shutting them up in a wicker cage made to imitate the human form, which was placed on a sacrificial pile, and the torch applied.

Each of the Gallic nations was made up of Druids, Patricians, and the common people, and matters of general interest were treated only in as-

semblies of the three classes. The aristocracy comprised the tribal chiefs, the chiefs of clans, the heads of rich families, those warriors having no other occupation than that of arms, and citizens distinguished by extensive commercial or business relations. The popular class was formed by various grades of working men, small tradesmen, farmers, freedmen and servants; below these, in the lowest ranks, were men reduced to the state of slavery.

The Druids were the ministers of religion, directed both public and private sacrifices. interpreted omens, judged criminals, settled questions of inheritance, and taught the youth. Exempt from the payment of taxes, and from all civil and military duties, the Druids held a great assembly once a year in the country of the Carnutes, at Chartres, where the chief of this powerful fraternity had his residence. There were Druidesses as well as Druids, who wore a costume of white linen, fastened around the body by a metal girdle. They predicted future events by observing stars and meteors and the entrails of human victims. Some of them took the vow of perpetual virginity.

Connected with the order of the Druids was that of the bards, whose task was to chant in verse the praises of the gods, the beauties of nature, and the glories of war; and there was also an inferior order of priests, the euhages, who assisted the Druids in the practice of their cult, of which one of the most important was gathering with a golden sickle, in the midst of an elaborate religious ceremonial, the boughs of mistletoe that sometimes adorned the oaks.

The chief gods worshipped by the Gauls were

Hesus, the supreme god; *Teutates*, god of war and of the intelligence; *Belinus*, god of medicine and wisdom; *Agmius*, god of eloquence; *Taranis*, god of thunder; and there were numerous inferior deities, more or less local, such as *Rhenus*, god of the Rhine, and *Vosges*, god of the Vosges. The Gauls believed in the immortality of the soul, and believed so firmly that they loaned one another money upon the sole condition of its being repaid in course of the new existence into which they were to enter after death.

Such were the moral and intellectual conditions under which the Gallic people lived, two centuries before Christ, conditions modified more or less by circumstances peculiar to the different regions, as was the case in the Alsatian plain.

The Rhine, which separates that plain from the Germans, by the violence of its current and the overflow of its waters, prevented the settling of the west bank as thickly as would have been necessary to guarantee it against the aggressions of these barbarians, always eager for pillage and plunder. Fed by the numerous tributary rivers, whose current and volume were increased by the climatic conditions of the times, the river spread its tide hither and yon over the lowlands along its course, and encompassed with its arms numerous islands and far-stretching swamps. So the river borders began to be habitable only at some distance inward, which necessitated on the part of the Gauls of the Alsatian plain a vigilance unrelenting and difficult to maintain, and helped to make them, like all frontiersmen, more disposed to war and more accustomed to it than the people of the interior.

Three of the Gallic tribes extended their territory as far as the Rhine; to the south, the Rauraci, whose possessions lay about the northern portion of the Jura, and whose capital, Rauricum, was situated two leagues away from Basel; next, the Sequani, who occupied Franche-Comte and the southern extremity of Lorraine, having for their capital city Vesontium (Besancon), and possessing many towns in Alsace—Cambe, Brisiacus, Olinus and Argentovaria (Colmar); and to the north the Mediomatrici, who held all the upper portion of Alsace and the greater part of Lorraine, as far as the region of Spire and Treves, with Divodurum (Metz) for the capital, and for chief towns in Alsace, Helvetium, Broemages, Saletes, and Argentoratum (Strasbourg). Later, in the time of Caesar, or a little before, the Mediomatrici were obliged to cede the northern extremity of the Alsatian plain to a tribe of Germanic origin called Triboces, who, together with the Gallic nations, merged into the Gallo-Roman state.

In these later days of Gallic independence, the three nations established on the west bank of the Rhine had to sustain the long and almost incessant struggle which the more barbarous Teutons kept alive in the hope of gaining possession of the richer and more fertile lands occupied by their neighbors. Even at times when the two great peoples, always hostile, were at peace or under a truce, it frequently happened that some group of warriors from a Germanic Rhenish tribe, eager for glory and plunder, would cross the river and attempt depredations on the Gallic side. Their presence was quickly made known, and they were steadily

withstood, till they were forced to return to their own country.

It was on such adventure bent, that a band of Germans, after having attacked one of the rare Gallic villages near the river banks, were pursued by a troop of Mediomatrici to the Sequanian frontier, where some of this latter nation's horsemen promptly rallied to the support of their fellow Gauls. The Germans, now inferior in numbers, exhausted by privations, and relentlessly hunted down, were driven from forest to forest, from island to island, and at last were brought to bay on ground encircled by the waters of the Rhine itself. Cut off now for many days from the barks which had brought them over, and unable to retreat further, they accepted the challenge to battle, and fought courageously until thirty or more of them were either killed or wounded.

Among those most seriously injured was the young Thorwald, son of the chief of a clan of the Mediomatrici, that was established in the foothills of Mount Altitona (Sainte-Odile). In the thick of the fight, he had charged with his lance upon a German of colossal size; but he was checked by his enemy, whose long and heavy sword beat down his weapon, and though slightly bent from its course by his shield, penetrated deep into his left side. Just as he was about to fall, and to receive a second thrust, inevitably mortal, he was rescued by the prompt and dexterous aid of one of his comrades in arms. A Sequanian horseman named Rodwig had just overcome one of the enemy, when he saw the danger threatening Thorwald a little distance away. Gathering his horse together for a prodigious leap,

he hurled it upon the German, whom he struck down and pinned to the earth with his lance. The combat was now ending in the fall of the last of the Germans, and Thorwald's rescuer had nothing to do but dismount and give his attention to the youth whom he had so opportunely aided.

The poor fellow's condition was so serious that it was quite apparent he could not be taken to his home, but must be hurried to the nearest Sequanian village, in which it chanced Rodwig lived; and Rodwig and his companions hastened away, bearing on litters of branches the dead body of one of their warriors, another too gravely wounded to sit upon his horse, and Thorwald almost dying.

After they were gone, the remaining Gauls threw into the waters of the Rhine the German dead and those whose wounds prevented them from marching; separated the survivors of the enemy into groups, having first disarmed them and charged them with the bonds of the slavery they were destined to experience west of the Vosges; made them bear away two dead and two wounded Mediomatrici, and set out to rejoin their clan at the foot of Mount Altitona, where they arrived at the end of the third day.

It took the Sequanians only a few hours to return to their village and establish Thorwald in the home of Rodwig, where he received the care of a priest versed in the art of healing, of a number of women used to relieving the sufferings of war, and especially of him who was prodigal with his hospitality and with evidences of the most lively interest.

Under these favorable conditions, Thorwald's recovery was rapid, and three weeks had hardly

passed, when he had gained sufficient strength to return to his home. These few days had also sufficed to establish a sincere and firm friendship between the two young men, which deepened as each discovered in the other the qualities he himself possessed—youth and beauty, brightness and mirthfulness, candor, loyalty, kindness, generosity and courage. Although Rodwig had but an obscure position in the middle class of the men of title or military rank in his clan, while Thorwald was the son of a rich and powerful chief, they were both insensible to this difference in station, and it gave like satisfaction to them both, when, upon the insistence of the wounded youth, the Sequanian promised to go with him to his home and remain there for some time.

When once this plan was resolved upon, Thorwald was so impatient for the pleasure of it, that he eagerly hastened its execution, though as yet he had regained but a part of his usual strength. They must go! To this Rodwig consented, but on condition that they should take two days for the journey which the two fine horses he was going to use could easily have made in one.

The arrival of the youths caused great joy in the clan of Altitona, where Thorwald was greatly beloved, and with the effusive tenderness lavished upon him by his father, his mother, and his sister, were mingled the expressions of gratitude and appreciation which these three people hastened to bestow upon his rescuer.

So several days of perfect happiness passed by; but presently Thorwald saw that Rodwig was no longer sharing in the full enjoyment of the others,

and that in spite of his efforts to conceal his feelings, his usual merry and open disposition was frequently clouded by moments of seriousness and silent reserve. Troubled by this change in his friend, Thorwald demanded the cause of it, but was assured that there was no other than the thought of their approaching separation.

And yet, Rodwig was disturbed by an agitation strange to him, which he tried to quiet, and which distressed him the more, the more he endeavored to hide it; for he did try, preferring for once, in obedience to the dictates of loyalty, to be lacking in frankness. The intimacy to which he had been admitted in the family of Thorwald, gave him opportunities to perceive very early the charms of mind and character which made the more attractive the grace and beauty of his friend's young sister, Diela. Satisfied in the beginning to observe and admire this gifted, amiable, and fascinating daughter of the Gauls, he now felt drawn to her by an irresistible love. After vainly trying to overcome the feeling, hitherto unknown to him, he submitted to it, but with the firm resolve of concealing it in the depths of his heart; for he considered his position hopeless. In fact, possessed of only modest means, it was not fit that he should aspire to a connection with the wealthy family of Thorwald; and this difference in fortune was even less important than the difference in rank which separated him, a simple warrior of the Sequani, from the powerful Chief of the Mediomatrici; moreover, could he help fearing that, should he make known to these people, who had received him so affectionately, the love he dared to entertain, he would lay himself open to

the suspicion of self interest, and of a desire to be recompensed for the service he had rendered to Thorwald?

As firm in keeping his resolutions as he was ready in making them and putting them into execution, Rodwig after taking a most affectionate farewell, left his friend's hospitable home, where he had had so much enjoyment, and returned to his own village, after an absence of not more than a month. Here he took up the ordinary affairs of his life, without allowing himself to give way to the disappointment from which he suffered. He did not, like the Troubadours and Trouveres, later on, feel the need of putting into song the pains of unrequited love, but contented himself with concealing in his heart his feelings for the fair Diela. The only change observable in him was that the life, gaiety, and carelessness which had characterized him hitherto, had given place to a quieter and more serious manner, with some tendency to solitude. Thus a year passed, without other incident than an occasional meeting with Thorwald, in the home of the one or the other, or on the hunting ground, which had only served to render their friendship the more faithful and unalterable.

One day Thorwald came to tell Rodwig that Diela, having arrived at the age of twenty, must presently choose a husband from a number of young men who aspired to that honor; that upon the occasion, there would be a great feast in his family, and at its end, his sister, in accordance with the established custom, would make known which one of the suitors she preferred. To this announcement, which Rodwig heard without betraying his feelings,

Thorwald added that he was sure his best friend would be present at the betrothal, and that he should expect him at least two days in advance. It was a hard test for poor Rodwig, but he did not quail in the face of it, and two days before the feast day when he was to see Diela give herself a master, he was with her and her family, and in the midst of a number of young men all desirous of gaining the good graces of the beautiful maid of the Mediomatrici.

The morning after his arrival, Rodwig found himself with a score of young warriors in a clearing near the village, whither Thorwald had taken them for some of their customary exercises and sports, a number of slaves going along to serve them with beer and hydromel. It was a varied and interesting crowd. Some, among whom was Rodwig, were reclining on wolf skins, chatting gaily over their hunting exploits; other groups were absorbed in the games of chance dear to the Gauls, or contending in trials of skill or strength, which gave rise to betting among the contestants. It was a question of making the most prodigiously high or the longest leap; of running most rapidly round a given course; of hurling the spear most accurately or shooting best with arrows, or of making the most vigorous blow with an ax or a sword. The joy of the victors and the protests and facetious sallies of the vanquished, filled the place with animation and laughter, which were only checked for a moment to listen to the proposal of a new trial of strength, made by one of the athletes who had thus far had the greatest number of successes.

"Some of you," he said with an arrogant look,

“very nearly equalled me in the simple sports we have just been trying; dare you pit yourselves against me in something more serious? You see this white birch with the straight and vigorous shaft; let a rope be attached near the top, so that we may use it to pull the tree over toward the ground; the one who bends it farthest and holds it there longest, is the strongest man among us.”

The proposition of the boastful and sinewy *Herfax* was received with acclaim, and promptly put into execution. A number of the athletes took their turn at the rope, and inclined the birch to a greater or less degree, the top springing back when each reached the end of his strength. Thorwald was among those who had made the best record, when *Herfax* took hold of the rope, made the tree bend lower than anyone else had done, and held it longest, looking triumphantly about him all the time. *Herfax* already believed himself the victor, when Thorwald called Rodwig and persuaded him to try his strength, which he knew to be superior to his own. The Sequanian was glad to oblige his friend, and Thorwald gave a cry of joy when he saw the tree bend slowly until it reached by far the lowest point to which it had been brought, and remain there twice as long as it had hitherto been held.

Finding himself acclaimed by all the contestants except *Herfax*, who was filled with displeasure and wounded vanity, Rodwig said with a smile: “My success was an easy one, good friends, for the tree had been shaken by you all, and I had only to finish your work.” His words were received with appreciation, and gained him new congratulations.

He was trying to slip away to the group of youths with whom he had first been talking, when the general attention was drawn to the group where the gambling was going on, from which the noise of a quarrel was now arising.

The slaves charged with serving beer and hydromel, had been kept busy, especially among these gamblers, some of whom were just beginning to show signs of inebriety, while others had already reached the drunken state. The play had become intense; ornaments, shields, helmets and other armor and even horses had changed owners. One of the losers had been despoiled of everything he possessed, even his dwelling; and in the hope of regaining from his adversary the things he had lost, he proposed a fresh game, in which he should wager his own freedom, in the form of three years of personal servitude. Such stakes were too frequent among the Gauls for this one to be refused; but it proved fatal to the man who had thus tried to avenge himself, and who became an object of commiseration to his former companions, of whom he was now no longer an equal. The master he had just acquired, made him cruelly conscious of his position, by ordering him to go and get together his possessions, and await further commands.

This swift and harsh use of the rights of the victor, aroused the indignation of some of the victim's friends, and one of them made it evident in violent language, which was replied to in kind by the nearest friends of the other man.

The quarrel increased rapidly in bitterness, and already some one had gone in search of weapons, which would have turned the pleasure ground into

a field of combat, when the aged Druid *Horik* was seen approaching, whose imposing aspect and commanding gesture alone brought these angry fellows up sharply. "Is the source of the German blood so completely quenched," he demanded severely, "that you are making ready here to spill Gallic blood? instead of warring against the enemy, would you fight among yourselves? shame and anathema upon you, whose vile passions have so destroyed your good sense, that they are driving you to fratricide! Remember the authority of my sacred office, and fear still more the occult power given me by the sacred mysteries of the religion of our gods! I declare an end to this day's sport, which is becoming culpable. Go home, every one of you!"

Awed and submissive, the young warriors, who were as superstitious as they were bellicose, made haste to obey the Druid's command. Thorwald, pained to see the sports he had arranged ended before nightfall, returned home with Rodwig, who like himself had had no part in the gaming or the quarrel.

Toward the middle of the next day, a hundred guests were assembled at tables set in the open in front of the homestead of the old chief *Marcol*. The company was made up of the Druid *Horik*, the elder and more notable members of the *Altitona* clan, its most renowned warriors, and a dozen or so of the younger men, whose personal merits made them eligible for *Diela's* choice of a husband.

After a few friendly words to his guests, *Marcol* invited them to sit down, and the banquet began. The Chief occupied an elevated seat in the center. At his right was his daughter, next the Druid, and

then the most aged of the remaining guests; at his left sat his wife, followed by a bard whose long white hair and beard betokened great age, and after him came Thorwald and his beloved Rodwig, who was firmly repressing in the depths of his heart, the poignant suffering of his hopeless love. The remaining banqueters were grouped according to their liking, at tables facing that of the Chief and his more intimate friends.

Toward the end of the meal, Horik began to speak in praise of the gods, and to narrate the details of a great sacrifice which had recently been offered them on the high plateau of the *Fiery Field*, not far from the peak of Donon. Many unfavorable auspices had been observed among the Mediomatrici living to the west of the Vosges, and had been confirmed by observations made by the Druids upon the entrails of human victims immolated in three different vicinities. In order to exorcise the unknown evils to which they believed themselves exposed, the people resolved to invoke the favor of the gods by a great sacrifice, and to this end they raised a great pile, surmounted by a wooden cage vaguely resembling a man's form, holding four German slaves in its lower tier, and in the upper three Gauls chosen by lot from the servant class. The wood for the sacrifice being very dry, gave out little smoke but an ardent flame. "And so," said the old Druid, "from the moment it was set afire, one could see long tongues of flame reaching up to the Germans, who, mad with pain and rage, uttered frightful cries, which were soon repeated by the Gallic victims above. It was a pious and imposing scene," the old priest went on,—“these men, chosen

to make expiation, raising their voices to Heaven in their torture and agony; their suffering and death should bring down upon the Mediomatrici the indulgence of the god of war."

After the speech of the Druid, the Bard took his turn. Rising to his full height, he brushed back from his forehead his long white hair, and with dignity as well as graceful facility, improvised his verses, beginning with an invocation to Belinus, the god of art. He sang the warlike glories of the clan of Alitona, and those of its chief, Marcol, and his aged comrades. After recounting their exploits, he fell into gentler measures, and extolled the virtues and charms of Diela—her intelligence, sweetness and kindness; the elegance of her tall, slim figure; the grace of her carriage and movements; the freshness of her color, her delicate features and white teeth; the azure of her eyes, the abundance and softness of her long blonde hair, the harmonies in her voice, which he compared to that of the lark, the airy songster most beloved of the Gauls. Noisy and enthusiastic acclamations crowned the poetic utterances of the Bard, which re-echoed most in the heart of Rodwig, deepening the torture he endured.

Then the proud Herfax was seen rising from his seat, stroking with one hand his heavy auburn moustache, and looking confidently about him, his glance softening, however, when at last it fell upon Diela; and in a penetrating voice, he made this speech: "I should be happy did I possess even a small part of the skill with which the honored and beloved bard of our clan has just paid homage to the merits of the young woman whom we all ad-

mire, and whose choice many of us covet; but I am only a warrior and my words are not worth so much as my deeds. I can only make known the sentiments she inspires in me, and say to her, that among those who dare to hope for her companionship, not one surpasses me in wealth, in stature, in activity, in strength and in bravery, and that in accepting the offer I make her, she will crown all these advantages that I possess."

After this speech, which aroused as many murmurs as it did marks of approval, one of the euhages, a man of sympathetic and noble aspect, speaking in soft and ingratiating tones, made himself heard as follows: "Whatever advantages a warrior may offer a wife, they are unfortunately offset by his repeated absences, the dangers to which he is exposed, his habit of frequenting places where gaming is too deep and there is too much drinking and quarreling; and too often by the rudeness of his manners and his nature. How greatly preferable is the lot of the companion of a member of the priesthood, even though he be, like myself, only one of the inferior order of the hierarchy of priests of our gods. In the case of such a union, the woman does not have to dread the payment of taxes, or to undergo the anxiety and grief of seeing her husband exposed to the dangers of war and of the excesses to which he might give himself in times of peace. He to whom she has confided the care of her life, is not forced to part from her, is exposed to no perils, enjoys general consideration, and occupies a prominent place as soon as he is elevated to the dignity of a Druid. Such is the destiny which might assure a happy life to the beautiful

Diela, should she deign to listen favorably to my avowals."

There was but one other pretendent to Diela's hand who desired to express his thoughts or had the courage to try. He was a merchant, active and of much intelligence, already very wealthy in spite of his youth, and growing more so with every journey he made into the countries, often far distant, with which he had succeeding in establishing commercial relations. He vaunted the ever increasing comforts to be procured through his career, the extensive knowledge acquired in following it, and the position of influence it would give to the mistress of his house; and he ended by a warm and eloquent prayer addressed to Diela, to whose happiness he declared that he would devote his life.

The guests now took up the thread of their conversation, and were not again interrupted, until the moment came when the Druid announced, that according to the custom followed by a number of the Gallic nations, Diela, a cup in her hand, would pass in front of the guests, and stopping before the one she was to choose for her husband, offer the cup to him. Horik suggested that all keep silence while the girl was carrying this out, so that no word or movement should disturb her.

Anxiety might now be seen on the faces of those whose fate depended upon the issue of this interesting ceremony, while a lively curiosity showed itself in the expression of all the rest, and it was only by a supreme effort that Rodwig succeeded in appearing calm.

The whole assembly was moved to rise, and they stood in respectful attitude while Diela, serious and

thoughtful, grasped the cup, into which her father had poured some hydromel, and then moved gracefully toward the right, passing before the Druid and the aged men next to him. She continued her way along the ranks of all these friends or dependents of the old Chief, giving to each a kind or friendly glance; but she did not stop before any one of them. The young men who had raised their desires and pretensions to her, were left downcast as they saw that their hopes had been in vain, and all who were watching the silent scene expected to see it end without result; for Diela's course had already taken her to the extreme left of the table where her family had been seated. It was there that Rodwig now stood, by the side of Thorwald, and there Diela hesitated an instant, then taking a step toward her brother's friend, blushing and smiling she held out the cup to him.

Surprised, pale with emotion, and scarcely conscious of his happiness, which was almost greater than he could bear, Rodwig seized the cup in one hand, while he took in the other the hand of Diela, pressing it tenderly as he asked: "Then you divined my secret?"

"Easily," she replied, "when I myself was keeping the same one." Thorwald turned toward his parents, saying to his friend: "Brother, these are your father and mother." And Marcol, pressing Rodwig's hand, said affectionately: "My daughter could have made no better choice than that of the man who saved her brother." "As for me," added Diela's mother, putting her arms about her child, "I am now happy in having two sons equally worthy of my affection."

SEVENTH VIEW.

The Gauls attacked by the Romans. To the aid of the Massilians. Allobroges, Arverni and Bituit. First Roman province and colony of Narbo. Cimbri and Teutones. Helvetii. Ariovistus. Vercingetorix. All Gaul subjugated and partitioned into four provinces. Resignation and general submission of the Gauls; final opposition. Characteristic Episode: **Sigor and Veda.**

Gaul had long been the terror of the Romans. Now they turned the tables upon her. They first invaded the country in 154 B. C., to aid the Massilians in their struggle with the Ligurians; these they reduced to submission to the Roman allies.

In 124 B. C., the Massilians, being attacked by the Salyes, again called the Romans to their assistance. After a second victorious campaign, a Roman colony was established in Gaul, the proconsul Sextius laying the foundations of the City of Aix.

Two years later, taking advantage of the war the Aedui were waging against the Allobroges, the Romans made an alliance with the former nation, and fell upon the latter, which had refused to give up to them the chief of the Salyes, to whom they had given sanctuary after his downfall. In spite of their alliance with the Arverni, the Allobroges were defeated, and so, in the following year were the Arverni, whose king, Bituit, captured by treason,

was taken to Rome and led a captive in the triumphal procession of his conqueror, Domitius. The country of the vanquished Gauls was converted into a Roman province, and a short time afterward the submission of other Gallic tribes made it possible for the Romans to establish an important colony at Narbonne. These Roman possessions just escaped destruction under the onslaught of an invading army of Cimbri and Teutones, whose armies, however, were put to rout by Marius at Vercellae, a hundred and one years before the Christian era.

Forty years later, Caesar was in command of all the Gallic territory that had submitted to the Romans. The Sequani being at war with the Aedui, called to their aid Ariovistus, king of the Suevi, who soon made his power felt by both the contending nations. These now united their forces in an effort to repulse him, and to the same end they made an alliance with the Rauraci, and let a whole tribe of the Helvetii enter their territory. Caesar began by exterminating this tribe. Then he advanced toward the Rhine, and in a great victory drove Ariovistus and the remainder of his Suevi across the river. The exact spot where this battle was fought is uncertain; but judging from what is known of the Roman pursuit of the fleeing Germans to the river's bank, its scene could not have been elsewhere than in the southern part of Alsace, in the country of the Rauraci and the Sequani.

His power strengthened by his last two victories, Caesar had only to push forward his conquest of the Gallic tribes, always at war among themselves, and so never all resisting him at the same time.

And yet, in spite of these conditions so favorable to him, it was only after seven campaigns that he succeeded in subduing the last of them. It was in the third campaign that he had to drive back beyond the confluence of the Moselle and the Rhine, a formidable invasion of Germans. In the sixth, he was obliged to sustain a struggle against the most determined opposition the Gauls ever made in defense of their national independence, when from all sides their warriors had assembled in the country of the Arverni, under the command of a young chieftain named *Vercingetorix*.

After a number of encounters, in which the Gauls often had the advantage, they were obliged to take refuge in Alesia, a stronghold situated on a height, which Vercingetorix heroically defended with the eighty thousand men still left to him. After he was surrounded by the enemy, he sent away his horsemen, who had become useless, charging them to make a supreme appeal to the Gallic nations. According to the Roman historians, who must certainly have exaggerated the number in order to enhance Caesar's glory, two hundred and fifty thousand Gauls came to the aid of Vercingetorix. But the Roman general had so fortified his camp, **that** the Gauls could not gain possession of it, and at the close of a terrific battle, they were put to flight. After this battle, Vercingetorix, who had taken part in it with all his forces, now reduced to helplessness, returned to Alesia, summoned his council, and spoke these noble words before them: "We have fought for the freedom of the Gauls and we are vanquished. We must yield to our fate, and that it may be less hard for the rest of you, let me

be delivered up, dead or alive, to Caesar; which shall it be?"

Caesar was informed that Vercingetorix was about to surrender himself, but he demanded in addition the laying down of all arms, and the surrender of the other chiefs, and appointed as the place for this, an eminence in front of his quarters. He himself had scarcely arrived there, where he was to decide the fate of the vanquished people, when Vercingetorix was seen approaching clad in splendid armor and mounted on a mettlesome horse, which he brought to a stand before the Roman officers. Then the haughty Gaul dismounted, and without speaking a word, threw on the ground his helmet, his shield and his sword. Caesar covered him with reproaches and abuse, and ordered chains for the intrepid warrior, whose air of nobility and calmness was not disturbed by this odious treatment. The splendid victim of patriotism was led to Rome and thrown into a dungeon, from which he did not come out until the end of six years, when he took his part in the triumph of Caesar, and was then cruelly put to death by the headsman's axe, in 46 B. C. Four years before this odious execution of the Gallic hero, Caesar had reduced the whole of Gaul to a Roman province.

Enticed by the superior civilization of the Romans, the glory of Caesar, and the honors he heaped upon their most influential men, the care he took to respect the municipal governments, and especially by the creation of a legion composed wholly of Gauls (called *Alauda*, from the sky-lark, because of the national love for the bird), the Gallic people

ceased to think of their independence, which had been so disturbed by civil strife, and no longer offered any resistance to the Roman rule.

They remained almost indifferent to the changes in administration which Augustus forced upon them early in his reign, during the last years before the modern era. Entirely disregarding their original national divisions, which Caesar had carefully respected, his successor merged them indiscriminately into four provinces—Aquitania, between the Pyrenees and the Loire; Gallia Narbonensis, between the Pyrenees, the Mediterranean, the Alps, the Rhone and the Cevennes; Gallia proper, or Celtic Gaul, between the Loire, the Seine and the Saone; and Gallia Belgica, between the English Channel, the Seine, the Saone and the Rhine.

The Gauls showed themselves no more sensitive to the changes undergone by their religious beliefs and observances. Their gods were either repudiated or transformed into Roman divinities, and the Druids, driven further and further back toward Armorica, were replaced by priests of the Latin cult.

The stamping out of the spirit of national independence was not so complete but that there were left in many generous hearts lively sentiments of opposition and of hatred toward the alien enemy, which were oftenest to be found in out-of-the-way places, least exposed to the allurements of the Roman civilization. Such a spirit had been preserved unsullied among a little Gallic clan dwelling in the Valley of La Roche, almost entirely cut off from contact with the neighboring regions, at the foot of the Vosges Mountains that bear up the plateau of the *Champ-du-feu* and the lofty crest of the *Donon*.

The chief of this clan was the brave *Sigor*, whose grandfather had met his death by the side of Bituit, on the battlefield of the Arverni and the Allobroges, and whose brother had fallen at his side under the walls of Alesia. With the old warrior lived his daughter *Veda*, a young Druidess, who, after visiting the various retreats of the priests and priestesses of the isle of Sein and the forests of Amoriga, had returned to consecrate her life and affection to her father. Her personal charms and her admirable qualities of heart and mind, made her worthy of the great love her father had for her, and together they strove to make of the son and brother *Naxur*, a man deserving of their attachment and that of *Sigor*'s followers.

Father and daughter were often pained to see that many qualities they desired for *Naxur*, failed to develop in him. He was strong and handsome, skillful in all bodily exercises, pleasant and kindly, and had a bright mind; but he was frivolous, careless, forgetful even in important matters, eager for novelty, and little responsive to lofty ideas and enthusiasms.

These defects became more and more evident, and when he was approaching his twentieth year, he confessed to his sister his ardent desire to leave the clan of the Rock and go to some one of the Gallic cities that the Romans were beautifying by their works of engineering and art and the effects of their civilization in general. His ambition was to learn their language, to acquire the knowledge they had, and to become acquainted with their customs and habits and the mode of their daily life. "I want," he said, "to leave behind my half savage

ignorance, and open my eyes to the light which these strangers possess, and with which they dazzle us; they will have shed it all over Gaul before it penetrates into our native valley, unless I go to them and bring some of it back with me."

Veda, deep-rooted like her father in all that constituted the Gallic nationality, and imbued with his hatred of the conquerors of their country, fought against these plans of her brother, and was filled with despair when she saw that he was bent upon carrying them out. For she knew how indignant Sigor would be when he learned of them, and that dissensions and probably a break between father and son would follow.

As impatient to have new desires fulfilled as he was ready to entertain them and obstinate about giving them up, Naxur let little time pass before making his present plans known to the old chieftain, who tried, but in vain, to oppose them with his parental authority. The ungrateful son was master of his affairs, and breaking the ties which attached him to his family, his clan, and his native village, he set out for Argentoratum, promising, however, that he would return after a sojourn of a year at the most.

In these final days before the opening of the modern era, Argentoratum (Strasbourg) had already become an important city, on account of the number of its inhabitants and its situation on the large River Ill, which in its course of a hundred and fifty kilometers, gathers up from the Alsatian plain the waters of many rivers descending from the Vosges, and goes on to empty them into the Rhine, only a little way from the city. This combination of ad-

vantages had led the Romans to choose the place for the establishment of one of their strongest military posts and the active development of their political, administrative, and commercial resources. Latin was spoken there as freely as Gallic, and the various institutions already founded in it, gave to Argentoratum all the characteristics of the large Gallo-Roman cities of the Augustan age.

Naxur was enchanted by the sight of novelties he had come to inquire into during the time he had given himself for remaining in the city. In spite of his father's disapproval of his project, he had furnished Naxur with some means for carrying it out, and also with an appeal for his son's aid and protection, which he had addressed to several of his old friends residing in Argentoratum.

With the eagerness he put into the pursuit of everything new to him, Naxur devoted himself to the study of the language, customs and habits of the Romans, and of the commercial affairs developed by their presence, even connecting himself with some of these so successfully as to assure an easy competence. He was very soon brought into notice by his abilities, his education,—so superior to that of most men of his race,—his skill in the use of his physical strength, and his pleasing disposition. He was quick to make acquaintances of his own age, among both Gauls and Romans, and entered gaily into all their pleasures. As he had intended, he was no longer the demi-savage of the Valley of the Rock, but had become an attractive and companionable fellow, welcome in the most distinguished families of Argentoratum.

But his successful career did not make him forget

his affection for his father and sister. He informed them of his affairs, from time to time, in missives which he thought must be agreeable to them, but which, on the contrary, increased their regrets and sorrow on his account; for each succeeding one made them see more clearly the growing distance that separated him from them. As they had expected, the time set for his return had passed without it, and this but added to their grief, which each succeeding year deepened.

Among the Romans occupying official posts at Argentoratum, was the uncle of a young centurian of the eighth legion, with whom Naxur had entered into intimate friendship. Kindly received by this relative of his friend Marcus, Naxur the more assiduously availed himself of his hospitality, because of the presence in the house of a niece, Virginia, the young centurian's sister, who was possessed of all the attractions Italy lavishes upon the daughters of her fortunate climate.

Promptly intoxicated by the charms of this young and beautiful stranger, Naxur fell violently in love with her, and thought himself the happiest of mortals, when he found that his passion was not discouraged by the object of it.

Marcus saw no obstacles, and informed his uncle, who also had no opposition to offer; however, he made it a condition of his consent to his niece's marriage with a Gaul, that the latter should give unquestionable proof of his loyalty to the Roman rule.

After much reflection and deliberation, it was agreed, that both to furnish the guarantee exacted of Naxur, and to assure his future and Virginia's, the best thing would be for him to join the Gallic

legion, in which, thanks to his aptitude and his superiority to the majority of his compatriots, as well as to the influence of the Roman functionary, he would be eventually promoted to the rank of centurian.

This project, promptly put under way by those most interested, was carried out with no delay or difficulty, and it only remained to make the whole thing acceptable to Naxur's father, for his consent was considered by Virginia to be essential to her own.

When informed of these facts by a message from his son during the fifth year of his absence, Sigor made no reply. However, following the promptings of his inconsequential mind, Naxur did not doubt that just as his father had yielded to persuasion before, he would now do so again, in the matter of the marriage with Virginia, especially if he were given an opportunity to judge of her character. From the moment he got this idea into his head, Naxur had no thought for anything else but making the journey to the Valley of the Rock, in company with Virginia and Marcus, so that he might present them to Sigor and Veda, whose affection he thought they would surely win. Used to seeing the friendliness which was the rule between the Gauls and Romans about him, he forgot his father's patriotic sentiments and his hatred of his country's conquerors, not even thinking to make these things known to Virginia and her relatives, whom he assured that the old man's silence could have no significance antagonistic to their views. He pictured in rosy colors the little journey to the Valley, described enthusiastically the beauty of the

mountains and his eagerness to see them again, especially in the company of his friends, and told them of his sister's unchanging affection for him, and of his father's generous and hospitable ways. He was eloquent and he was beloved. It ended in his obtaining the promise of Marcus and Virginia to go with him to the Valley of the Rock.

And meanwhile, in this secluded spot, sorrow and indignation had been filling Sigor's heart, from the moment he received the last and fatal message from his son; while Veda, though she shared her father's feelings, made efforts to console him; but they were in vain.

One day, at the end of a beautiful morning, father and daughter were seated in elevated seats at the head of a table where they were finishing their meal and presiding over that of a score of retainers and servants, their usual table companions, when one of their shepherds came running in, and made haste to inform them that two Roman knights and a lady in a litter borne by mules, were just arriving outside the palisade that surrounded the village.

"Let them be admitted," said Sigor, whose outward calm was not disturbed by a presentiment of trouble which he nevertheless felt: "Let them be admitted, and taken to the building reserved for travellers; my daughter will be there to receive them. Veda, go to this lady and her companions, and see that they are treated with the respect due to guests, whoever they may be."

After an absence long enough to greatly increase her father's anxiety, Veda, agitated and fearful, rejoined him in the dining hall where he had remained alone, and informed him that she had just seen

Naxur, his friend Marcus, and Virginia, the Roman girl Naxur wished to marry. "Your son," she said, "has come back to me with expressions of warm and tender affection, and he is impatient to show the same feeling to you. The strangers with him appear to be people of distinction, and worthy of all respect and interest. O my father, I tremble to see you so moved! Remember that Naxur is my brother and that he is your son; remember that bound as I am by my vows, I can give you no descendants, and that without Naxur the clan of the Rock will see in you the end of our glorious line of chieftains. O my father, whom I love so tenderly and venerate yet more, be indulgent, do not be severe!"

Sigor remained a long time buried in deep reflection, showing in spite of himself signs of the violent strife going on within his soul, and the contradictory feelings which were agitating him. At length, his face took on an expression of firm resolution, and he told his daughter to go for Marcus and Virginia and take them to the reception hall, where he would wait for them.

He had been there but a few moments when Veda entered, holding Virginia by the hand, and followed by Marcus, the sight of whose Roman dress sent a tremor through the old chieftain, which did not, however, hinder him from a courteous exchange with the strangers of the civilities prescribed by custom.

After they were all seated, the brother and sister together, and the daughter beside her father, Sigor opened the interview by saying, "Although I have learned from my son, what the relations are that at-

tach him to you, young strangers, I wish a few words of explanation as to the reasons for your coming to my home."

"I will tell you, very simply and quite sincerely," Marcus replied: "Your son had been my friend for more than three years, when my uncle, accompanied by my sister, came to Argentoratum, to carry out some important administrative measures, with which he has now been concerned for more than a year. I presented Naxur, and he was well liked by them both. He fell in love with my sister, who after a little time accepted his suit, very greatly to my satisfaction. Our relative, to whose guidance Virginia submits with a very warm affection, put no obstacles in the way of Naxur's aspirations; but he consented to fulfill his wishes only upon proof of his loyalty to the present government. This led Naxur to become a centurian in the Gallic Legion, and we supposed that this advantageous position would be highly appreciated by his family, and would make it agreeable to them to have him united to ours. So it was not without surprise, that we learned of your failure to make any response in the matter. However, Naxur attributed your silence to nothing but the habits of your isolated life, and had little trouble in persuading my sister and me to come with him in order to pay our respects to you, in your twofold dignity of father and Chief of the clan of the Rock. Need I add that we are astonished at what has happened since our arrival, and begin to fear that our visit is not being taken upon its true merits?"

"Do not believe," Sigor hastened to say, his voice betraying his emotion, "that I am capable of judging so unjustly what you have done loyally and with

the best intentions. On the contrary, I appreciate, and my daughter appreciates still more, the feelings that prompted you to come here. So it is with regret that I shall perhaps wound them in making known to you my own, and the mistake that Naxur committed in not making you acquainted with them."

"It is a hundred and fifty years since your people began to attack mine, and from that time to this my family has played its part in the struggles between them. In spite of all their efforts, which were unavailing because of the divisions among themselves, the Gauls have been forced to submit to the power of Rome. But whatever may be in the present, and whatever the future has in store, forgetfulness of the past ought never to be found in the hearts of those who fought against your legions, and saw them shed the blood of fathers, brothers, and friends, load with chains and sell as slaves more than a hundred thousand of their vanquished countrymen, and crush under foot the independence of their native land. I, an old soldier of Vercingetorix, feel yet the horror of the cruelties heaped upon that hero, and to the love I bear my country, I join a hatred inspired in me by the nation that has made itself her mistress, whatever be its grandeur, its power, and its social superiority. These passions do not, however, blind me to the injustice there would be in making them personal, and I as truly esteem the Roman who serves his country well, as I scorn the Gaul who repudiates his. So it cannot be an offence to you, brave soldier, faithful to your duty, nor to your young sister, whom one need only see to esteem and like, when I make it known to you

that neither Sigor nor his daughter would voluntarily consent to an alliance with a Roman house. As to Naxur, he has long forgotten or disdained my authority; he is free to act as he will."

"Noble Chieftain," replied Marcus, "without seeing the justice of your rancor and your futile resistance to what cannot be changed, I bow respectfully before the feeling that moves you. So far as concerns Naxur, whom I must reproach with having dealt very lightly with my family, I leave my sister to decide what the result shall be."

Then Virginia, although still having some difficulty in speaking the Gallic, announced her firm decision never to marry into a family whose affection she did not have, and whose impressions of her were such as to be detrimental to her dignity and self-respect.

Veda going over to her, took Virginia's hand impulsively and pressed it to her heart, saying, "Put that last thought far from you, I entreat you! In spite of his faults, I love my brother as I have always loved him, and you who have accepted and returned his love will leave with me an ineffaceable memory, full of gratitude and regret."

Marcus now expressed his desire to terminate the painful interview, and to set out immediately, in order to reach before the end of the day, the village in the plain where they had passed the preceding night; and he persisted in his determination, although Sigor urged him to prolong their stay till the next day, so that his sister might take a much needed rest.

Yielding to the will of the young Romans, the Gallic Chieftain received their good-byes, and

charged Veda to see that all arrangements be made for their departure, and that an escort of horsemen be sent to accompany them to the outskirts of the Valley of the Rock.

When she had seen her father's orders carried out, Veda, all in tears, returned to tell him of Naxur's grief at the departure of his friends and at the coldness of their farewell, and his impatience to be admitted in his turn into the presence of Sigor.

A few minutes later the old Chief saw his son enter with Veda, and at an imperious gesture on his part, halt a few steps away. Naxur no longer wore the long hair and moustache of the Gaelic warriors, and he was dressed in the military uniform of his rank in the Gallic Legion; his figure and carriage were altogether martial, and he looked remarkably handsome. He appeared to be violently agitated, and could scarcely control himself under his father's gaze, but broke into the complaints and reproaches with which his mind was filled.

"Is this the way, after years of absence, I must be received by my father, in the house where my mother gave me birth? This dwelling has indeed become inhospitable when it drives away people dear to me, whom I have brought here to present to the chief of the clan of the Rock, that they might pay their respects to him! What am I to think of such a welcome, and how explain it?"

"You should consider," said Sigor, in firm and severe tones, "that you are standing before a chief whose authority you have challenged, and a father whom you have wounded in every feeling. You,

who, in spite of my opposition, left me, upon the pretext of studying for a year the so-called progress of the Gauls, in order that upon your return you might teach your brothers of the Clan of the Rock to enjoy it also,—what have you done since then? You have prolonged your stay in a city which has become more Roman than Gallic, and you have brought back from it none of that light which was to illumine a prosperous future for your native valley.

“Forgetful of your duty to me and to those whose chief you should become after me, you have entered into friendly relations with the oppressors of your country, and you have acquired not only their language, but also the ways of their life!

“You have accepted the transformation of your gods into new and strange divinities; you have forgotten the glory and freedom of your country, to wear the yoke of the conquerors who crush her insolently under foot! You have clasped in yours Roman hands still warm with the blood of your compatriots whose fathers perished with mine on the battle fields of the Arverni, under the swords of the fathers of your new friends! You have forgotten the thousands of Gauls dragged to Rome as slaves, where they were sold and where they are still sold like worthless cattle!

“Without regard for the length and purity of my line, you would have given me Roman children for my descendants, and in order to attain this odious result, you have descended to the rank of a Roman mercenary!”

Crushed as Naxur was under the weight of these reproaches, he nevertheless cried out: “I am a cen-

turian in a legion of Gauls—Gauls alone!” “Yes,” Sigor replied bitterly, “a Gallic legion under hire, and at the orders of the Romans! You are nothing but a traitor, I tell you—traitor to your gods, traitor to your country, traitor to your fathers and your brothers! You have repudiated them all, and through my lips they repudiate you. And I—I repudiate you as my son! Go, leave this home that you defile by your presence and whose first dishonor is in your shame! Leave it forever! I banish you, I——

“Father, O father, do not curse him,” cried Veda, overcome with anguish.

“Be it so,” said Sigor; “out of love for you and in remembrance of your mother, I will not curse him, but I deliver him up to the rage of Taranis, whose bolts may perhaps hinder him from prolonging too far a life of shame and treason.”

Almost beside himself with grief, Naxur rushed out of the room in which his father had judged and condemned him. Veda followed, and after bidding her a hopeless good-bye, he sprang upon his horse, and at a mad gallop fled from his home, which he was never again to see.

From that fatal day, a mournful sadness reigned in Sigor’s dwelling. The weight of the years, which hitherto had not told upon his vigorous old age, now gradually enfeebled him, and in the end overcame him. In a few years’ time he died in his daughter’s arms, still cherishing the hope that the Gallic race would some day regain its independence.

When the Clan of the Rock had chosen a new chieftain, Veda retired to a quiet corner of her father’s domain. Always keeping herself informed

of her brother's fortunes, she learned that very soon after their father's death he had perished gloriously, after showing heroic courage in a battle fought by the Gallic Legion against the Germans, near the confluence of the Mozelle and Rhine.

It was not till twenty years of loneliness and sorrow had passed, that Veda in her turn followed those she had so greatly loved. The remembrance of the Druidess was long cherished by the Gauls of the Valley of La Roche.

EIGHTH VIEW.

Revolts of *Sarcovir*, *Vindex*, *Civilis* and *Sabinus*. A distinct Gallic Empire from *Posthumus* to *Tetricus*.—Insurrection of the *Bagaudae*.—Confederation of *Alemanni* and of *Franks*.—*Probus*, *Constantius Chlorus*, *Constantine*, *Constantius*, *Julian*, *Valentinian*, *Abrogast*, *Alaric*, *Aetius*, *Atilla*, *Cladion*, *Merowig*.—State of Latinized Gaul.—Architectural and engineering works and chief cities of Alsace.—Roman roads.—Introduction of Christianity.—Invasion of Gaul in the fifth century—Condition of Alsace upon arrival of *Attila*:—Scene descriptive of the ravages of the Huns.

For five centuries, Gaul made part of the Roman Empire, and was one of its most powerful and flourishing provinces; from the time of the reign of *Augustus*, there were not more than three uprisings of any importance.

In the year 21, A. D., the *Aedui* and some other tribes revolted against *Tiberius*. Their leaders were *Florus*, of the *Treviri*, and the *Aeduan Sarcovir*. After a first defeat, *Florus* killed himself, while *Sarcovir* continued the struggle, finally retiring to *Autun*, which he had previously captured. However, seeing the futility of his position, he went with his principal chieftains to an isolated dwelling in the country, where he committed suicide. His friends then fired the house and killed one another.

In the year 68, the *Aedui*, the *Sequani* and the *Arverni*, under the command of *Vindex*, proclaimed

as Emperor in opposition to Nero, *Galba*, commander of the Spanish Legions. The coalition was destroyed by *Virgilius*, Commander of the Legions of the Rhine, and *Vindex* ran himself through with his own sword.

The next year *Civilis* stirred up the *Belgae*, the *Treviri* and the *Lingores*, and proclaimed a Gallic Empire, with *Sabinus*, a member of the last named tribe, as head. Vanquished by the *Sequani*, whom he had attacked because they remained faithful to Rome, *Sabinus* had the report spread that he had perished in the burning of his own dwelling, to which he himself had set fire. In reality, he had taken refuge in an underground vault, where he lived for nine years with the aid of his wife, *Eponina*, who meanwhile bore him two children. The unfortunate family was at last captured and led to *Vespasian*.

"See," *Eponina* said to the Emperor, as she pointed to her children: "I have nurtured them in a tomb, that with me they might demand your grace for their father." Then perceiving that her prayer was denied, she added: "Put me to death with him; for I prefer the night of the grave to the light of day sullied by the sight of you." *Vespasian*, sparing only the children, delivered the two Gauls up to torture. *Civilis*, who had maintained his position in the north, in the year 70 concluded an honorable peace, which put an end to the efforts made by the Gauls through their love of independence.

They succeeded, however, in becoming a distinct empire in 259, but it was under a Roman general, *Posthumus*. He made a splendid repulse of the Barbarians, who for a long time had been incessant

in their attacks. This *Restorer of the Gauls*, as he was called, was assassinated, with his son, by his own soldiers, whom he had refused to allow to sack Mayence. Three other emperors followed in turn, and then the line ended in *Tetricus*, who was defeated by Aurelian, and surrendered to him in 270.

No sentiment of patriotism caused the insurrection which broke out toward the end of the third century; it was due entirely to the poverty from which Gaul was suffering, drained as she was by the ever-increasing taxes which Rome exacted of her provinces. The Gallic peasants under the name of *Bagaudae*, rose in a mass, laid waste city and country, and were put down only after a number of battles, the last of which took place near the confluence of the Seine and the Marne.

To protect its Rhenish frontiers, the Empire had to wage incessant warfare against the invading hordes of the nations whose westward progress had been checked by the river, that thus became the separating line between the race of the Celts and the various peoples who had successively originated from the north and east. Among these hordes two great confederations stood out, formed by different elements, as their names indicated—*Alemanni* (men of all tribes), and *Franks* (free men).

In the year 277, the Franks, accompanied by Burgundias and Vandals, invaded Gaul, capturing and pillaging seventy cities and towns. They were driven back across the Rhine by *Probus*, to whom the Alsatians and the other Gauls owe the introduction of vine culture.

In 292, Gaul, Spain and Great Britain were united in a single government, established by Diocletian,

and by him confided first to Constantius Chlorus, and then to his son Constantine. In 310, the latter gained a great victory over the Franks, and in 320 Crispus, during his imperial rule, defeated them again, as he also did the Alemanni, thus confirming the peace that Alsace had enjoyed since the advent of Constantine.

During the reign of Constantine's son, Constantius, Gaul was again ravaged by the Germans, who after sacking forty-five towns, settled on the west bank of the Rhine in the northern part of Alsace. To put an end to this alarming invasion, Constantius sent into Gaul his cousin and brother-in-law, Julian, then twenty-four years old, and thus far more interested in literary studies than in the military art.

The young general had numerous obstacles to surmount, for he arrived in the middle of winter, to take command of an army small in numbers, badly disciplined, and for the most part under the command of a leader who infamously withdrew his troops from battle, leaving Julian to face thirty-five thousand men with thirteen thousand. In spite of this betrayal, the enemy were killed, captured or hurled into the Rhine, near Argentoratum, and on the way back to his winter quarters Julian captured a considerable body of Franks that he surprised on the banks of the Meuse.

After passing the end of the winter of 358 at Lutetia (Paris) in the palace of the *Thermes*, Julian cleared the entire west bank of the Rhine of the barbarian hordes, and forced them to return twenty thousand legionary soldiers, who had become their captives in the course of the preceding years.

After the death of Julian the barbarians invaded the north of Gaul anew, and from 365 to 368 Valentinian was occupied in resisting them, crushing them out, or driving them back across the Rhine. During this time he had a series of forts and towers built along the river from its course to the sea, for the protection of the west bank. From 375 to 395 the successors of Valentinian admitted some of the barbarian chieftains to the highest offices of the Empire, and one of them, Abrogast, was put at the head of the army of Gaul.

In 406, Alaric, breaking through all obstacles, even captured Rome. The Burgundians had become established between Lake Geneva and the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle, while the Suevi, the Vandals and the Alans swarmed over the Pyrenees, without attempting to settle in Gaul. In 412, the southern part of the country was occupied by the Visigoths, the northeastern part by the Franks, and only a portion of the center was kept free from the invaders by the Roman, General Stilicho. Aetius, who replaced him in this command, routed these stranger hordes and put them to flight in a number of battles fought in the course of the years between 428 and 450.

In 451, Attila crossed the Rhine at the confluence of the Necker, destroyed Argentoratum, Mayence, Metz and other towns, massacred the inhabitants of the region, and ravaged all the northeastern portion of Gaul. Aetius, reinforced by the Franks, the Burgundians, the Alans, the Visigoths, who were already established in Gaul, and some Saxons whom the sea had driven upon the coast of Normandy, forced Attila to retreat into the plains

of Champagne, and destroyed his army in a great battle near Chalons.

So Gaul was delivered from the Huns; but it was still partitioned among the different nations which had formerly invaded it and which continued to expand there. The Franks, governed successively by Clodion, Merowig and Childeric, possessed the whole of southern Gaul, when in 481, Clovis, the son of Childeric, succeeded his father.

This epoch may be considered to have terminated the Gallo-Roman period, during which Alsace and the western borders of the Rhine continued to be, as they had been since the arrival of the Celts, the theatre of perpetual warfare between the Gallic and German peoples.

From the second century, Gaul had become entirely Latinized in language and mode of life, particularly among the upper classes. The schools of Autun, Lyons, Bordeaux and Marseilles were famous, and furnished great numbers of grammarians and orators, not only for the country itself but even for Rome. The people adopted the use of a new language, the *Romance*, which forms the groundwork of the dialect still spoken in our own time in the highland districts of the Vosges valleys of La Roche, Diepvre, Sainte-Marie-Aux-Mines, Orbey, Lapoutroye and Giromagny, and in the vicinity of Belfort.

Gaul was filled with temples, triumphal arches, aqueducts, baths, amphitheatres, monuments, sumptuous villas, and wonderful roads bordered by sepulchres. The fountains, the public squares, and even private houses, were adorned with statues of marble and various metals. On all sides rose altars,

both public and private, the greater part of them erected in honor of Mercury.

The Romans also enlarged and fortified many Alsatian towns, among others *Mons Brisiacus*, Old Brisach, then situated on the west bank of the Rhine, but which the river left definitely on the east bank, at the beginning of the fourteenth century, after having swept around first one and then the other side of it, and even both sides at a time, for more than three hundred years. Among all these Alsatian towns, Argentoratum was the most important, on account of its pre-eminence in the manufacture of arms. It produced battering rams, coats of mail, shields, helmets, swords, lances, bows and arrows, gauntlets and shoes with iron trimmings, and practiced the arts of gilding, silvering and chasing armor and weapons.

As in the other parts of Gaul, the cities in Alsace were embellished with architectural works of Roman construction; yet no remains of theatres, aqueducts or arches are to be found in them. The temples alone were numerous, and remains of them have been uncovered in the vicinity of Dagsbourg, at Augst, on Mount Donon, and about Altstadt and Niederbronn; the one on the Rhine road, at Ottmarsheim, still exists entire, and is actually used as a church. So far as concerns the temples in the large towns, they were mingled in the general ruins, at their devastation by the hordes of Attila and the other barbarians.

The vestiges of a bath were found at Bronxwiller, in 1735; and a century later the remains of a bathing establishment were discovered in a vineyard near Bernheim. Among them was a large and superb

mosaic, in a state of perfect preservation, which appeared to have served as the floor of a vast pool or room, and was still surrounded by ruined walls. As this remarkable piece of work could neither be preserved on the spot where it was found nor left to go to ruin there, it was transported to the museum at Colmar, where it occupies a considerable part of the floor space of the old church of the Unterlinden. It is to be regretted that a little of its original perfection was lost through the inevitable difficulties of transferring it.

All about Alsace, as evidences of the Gallo-Roman epoch, are found coins, tiles, tombs, sculptured stone, statues, altars, weapons and pottery. The Colmar Museum possesses a great number of these antiquities, most of which were found in the village of Horbourg, lying on the Ill, a kilometer from the city that itself occupies the site of ancient Argento-varia.

Roads and fortifications were the chief work of the Romans in Alsace. The highways established by them, remains of which are still to be seen at many points, took the following routes: From Ottrott to Altitona (Sainte-Odile); from Besancon to the Rhine; from Italy, by way of Switzerland, to Augst, Kembs, Ottmarsheim, Banzenheim, Brisach, Ell, Strasbourg, Mayence, and on to the mouth of the Rhine; from the country of the Rauraci to Soleure, in Helvetia, by way of Montpertuis and the valley of the Birs; from Besancon to Mandeure, Granvillars, Largitzen and Kembs; from Illsach to Brisach; from Thann to Epinal, through the valley of Saint-Amarin; from Horbourg to Elsenheim, Markolsheim and Ell; from Strasbourg to Brumath,

Lauterbourg and Spire; from Brumath to Saverne and Metz; from Alsace into Lorraine, through the valley of Schirmeck; and from Alsace into Lorraine through the valley of Villi.

The village of Ell just mentioned, is situated on the right bank of the Ill, near Benfeld, three leagues from Strasbourg. On the site which it occupies between these two cities, there stood in the Roman period the town of *Helvetus*, which must have been very flourishing if we may judge from the number and importance of the Roman antiquities that have been found there, including statues of Pallas and other divinities, and altars dedicated to Mercury, Hercules, Minerva, Vesta and Apollo. At Benfeld, not far away, is said to have been a temple of Mercury, which was demolished by Saint Maternus, supposedly the first apostle of Christianity in Alsace, toward the end of the third century.

It is generally admitted that Saint Amand was the first Bishop of Strasbourg, in the last half of the fourth century, but that there was no well organized Christian Church in Alsace before the sixth century. It was not until then that the bishopric of Strasbourg was firmly established, later than that of Metz, and very much later than that of Lyons, which, during the first three hundred years of our era, possessed the largest Christian community of all those established in Gaul.

The turmoil, invasion, devastation and slaughter that were heaped upon Gaul during the final years of the Gallo-Roman period, forbade the development of original or characteristic traits among the various peoples; the cruel fortunes they suffered together, submerged all individualities in a general cataclysm,

and the history of each family must have been confused with that of all the others, in the total of the common misfortunes, so that no one of them could be separately sketched. But it is fitting to give a rapid glance at some of the atrocities of which certain Gallic communities were the scene during this epoch.

Alsace had scarcely begun to recover from the ravages of the Bungundian invasion, when the fierce hordes of Attila swept down upon it. A part of the inhabitants sought refuge in the mountains, taking with them the remnants of their former fortunes, and leading the few farm animals they still possessed. There, they were further reduced by want, while the army of the Huns was advancing in the plain, destroying as it went Argentoratum, Helvetus, Brisaccia and Argentovaria, only a few isolated bands penetrating beyond into the Rauracian lands, now occupied by the Brugundians, who had established themselves throughout the region of the Jura.

In this territory, near the spot where Rouffach is to-day, was a little town, fortified, as all towns of the time were, to whose scanty population had been added a small number of fugitives escaped from the capture and destruction of the nearest military posts on the Rhine. The townspeople did not doubt that their ruin was inevitable and near at hand, when the enemy destroyed Argentovaria, from which they were only four leagues distant; nevertheless, they resolved to defend to the last ditch the remnants of their fortifications, which they had not yet had time since the last invasion to repair. They sent away the old men and the women and children, to whom

some refuge might be open in the Vosges, and prepared to see the others share a common fate.

A number of these fugitives were taken by *Sextus Halcovir*, a patrician of the town, to a villa which he owned in the mountains, where he was going to seek refuge for his old mother, his wife and his two daughters, girls of about twenty. There were besides three sons belonging to this family, but they had been left behind to take their part in the defense of the town.

Halcovir's villa had escaped in the preceding invasions on account of its secluded situation in the little valley of Soultzmath, and on account of the very conformation of this lovely and fertile Vosges valley itself. This fold in the mountains, well known in our day for its excellent mineral springs and the fine quality of its grapes, has no connection with the plain save by a rather narrow gorge, and instead of sloping upward to the summits east and west of it, as the Vosges valleys generally do, it crouches so to put it, at the foot of the mountains that girdle it about, making a basin parallel to their north and south direction.

These topographical conditions had hitherto protected Halcovir's fine villa, which he ordinarily left to the care of his farmers, shepherds and others of his dependents. This little group of retainers was now reinforced by the company of old men, women and children brought along by Halcovir with his mother, his wife and his children.

A party of foraging Huns, who were scouring the country about ruined Argentovaria, in search of provisions and plunder, made a dash upon the defences of the little Rauracian village, with the ex-

pectation of gaining immediate possession. But they met a repulse from its defenders, who protected the breeches with their weapons and even their bodies.

Yet however determined was this defense, it could do no more than prolong the agony of the little town. The Huns collected in greater numbers, assailed the town anew the next day, forced a way in over the dead bodies of the vanquished Gauls, massacred all still left alive, plundered the place, and reduced it to ashes.

Two of Halcovir's sons perished in the fight, but the third, whom a number of wounds had rendered incapable of bearing arms, had retired from the walls before the entrance of the Huns, and succeeded in escaping and reaching his father's villa, where he arrived covered with blood, and hardly alive, spreading terror by his appearance.

Dare they still hope that the gorge leading into the valley would escape detection by the enemy's scouts—sole chance of safety for the refugees? The hope was of short duration, for two days after the arrival of Halcovir's only remaining son, the pickets who had been stationed at the points of approach from the plain, saw a troop of barbarian marauders entering the passage which led to the valley. They ran to the villa with the fatal news, and all knew that they must now perish.

But Halcovir was determined to make a last effort to save the women and children, and he prepared to have them led away into the forests of the neighboring mountains, to the west of the valley. Choosing one of his retainers to direct them, he adjured the others to resist the Huns with him, so as to keep them as long as possible at the villa. The

brave fellows thus besought by the master they loved, all promised to wage a desperate fight; but they demanded as a condition, that not one of themselves, but Halcovir, should guide the little band of fugitives, since his age and his strength would render him more useful to them than he could be in the defense of the villa. Time was pressing, and without useless argument Halcovir led the unfortunate creatures he was trying to save into the nearest wood.

As soon as they had entered the valley, and had seen at its extremity the villa with its group of imposing buildings, the Huns broke into cries of astonishment and delight; but as they did not know what opposition they might have to encounter, they approached cautiously and with closed ranks.

The men who had dedicated themselves to the project of detaining the Huns as long as possible in the vicinity of the villa, had armed themselves and hidden in as advantageous positions as they could find, following in this the advice of Halcovir's son, who leaning painfully upon his sword, that he no longer had the strength to wield, desired to die with his companions, and in face of the enemy.

Not perceiving any hostile movement from the direction of the villa, the Huns at length approached it boldly, and made a dash against the great gate which gave entrance to it. Here they were held in check a moment by a shower of arrows that fell upon the foremost of them; but the very feebleness of the attack made it perfectly clear that they had no serious resistance to fear, and they rushed wildly into the villa.

In groups of two or three, the brave Rauraci re-

tired from post to post, prolonging as far as they could their hopeless struggle; then one after another they succumbed, valiantly fighting to their deaths.

Now the Huns began their pillage. One party of them carried all the valuables outside the villa, destroying everything else as they went along, and then ravaged the gardens, breaking to pieces the statuary and fountains. Others got together what provisions of food the villa contained, upon which they meant to live, and casks of wine, from which they would soon intoxicate themselves. Still others herded together the stock grazing in the meadows, preparatory to leading it away.

These last of the marauders were not long in finding traces of the unfortunate little party which had escaped with Halcovir, and they at once set out in pursuit. They soon overtook the group of women and children, who were already spent with fatigue and fright. Surrounding them, the Huns made them turn back towards the villa, first brutally beating their guide, and attaching a cord around his neck, by which one of the barbarians led him.

Seeing from the start that Halcovir's mother and two others of the older women could not keep up with the rest, the Huns struck them down on the spot, leaving them there to await the end of their agony.

When the villa was reached the victims were given over to the most horrible ordeals, and their butchers began an orgy of drunkenness, torture and blood. As their sack of the villa had brought only small sums of money to light, the Huns thought Halcovir must be concealing greater amounts in some secret place, and in their efforts to force him

to give this up, they submitted him at intervals to the cruelest ordeals. They began by breaking his teeth; then they tore out one of his eyes; next they forced him to stand with live coals under his feet; and finally, enraged that they could not even draw an outcry from him, they stretched his body on the ground, bound it down immovably, and applied to his breast and elsewhere the red hot irons of pikes and arrows. While those most greedy for plunder were thus satisfying their savage instincts upon the only living man they had within their power, others of the Huns seized the women and children. The little ones they strangled or smothered, beat out their brains against the rocks, crushed their bodies with stones, or threw them into the air and caught them on the points of pikes or swords as they fell. As for the women, their fate was more frightful than that of the children torn from their arms.

When there were left only dead bodies and a few dying victims whose tortures a spark of life was still cruelly prolonging, the Huns set fire to the buildings, gathered up their plunder, and with this and the cattle they had been able to herd, set out from the deserted valley, leaving behind only the slowly dying fires of the ruins of the Gallic villa.

NINTH VIEW.

Reign of Clovis.—Kingdom of Austrasia.—Dagobert I.—Dukes, Marquises, Counts, Barons.—Mayors of the Palace.—Attich, first Duke of Alsace—Sundgau and Nordgau.—Condition of Alsace under the Merovingian Kings.—Pippin of Heristal.—Charles Martel.—Pippin the Short—Royal Residences and Monasteries in Alsace.—Castles of the Nobles.—Legend of Saint Odile.

At the death of Childeric, in 481, his power passed into the hands of his son *Clovis*, then fifteen years old, and at the head of a small army of four thousand warriors, which was occupying the city of Tournai and the country about.

In conjunction with Ragnashar, King of Cambria, Clovis defeated the Roman General Syagrius at Soissons in 486, and had him decapitated. This made Clovis master of the country lying between the Loire and the Somme.

In 492, he married a Christian, *Clotilda*, the niece of a Burgundian King. Three years later he fought a great battle against the Alemanni, near the Rhine; not far from Strasbourg, the ancient Argentoratum of the Gauls, which now bore the name of *Argentina*. He was victorious, and drove the Alemanni back across the Rhine. It was after this successful battle of *Tolbiac* that Clovis presented himself for baptism to the Bishop Saint Remy at Rheims, and thus gained the support of all the clergy of Gaul.

He now gave Alsace the enjoyment of a long peace, during which its cities and villages rose from their ruins and saw the rebirth of commerce and industry in their midst. All their inhabitants now embraced Christianity.

After defeating the Visigoths, at Vouille, near Poitiers, in 507, Clovis attacked Provence, and was defeated before Arles, in 508. After having instigated the murder of the Frankish Kings of Saint Omer, Cambrai, the Mans, and Cologne, he died in 511, leaving to his four sons a kingdom which extended from the lower Rhine to the Loire. In the partition they made of it, Thierry was given the sovereignty of all the northeastern part of ancient Gaul, and this country, which included Alsace, took the name of Austrasia.

It would be going quite outside the limits of discussion of the facts showing the connection of Alsace with the other parts of Gaul, to rehearse all the occurrences, invariably sanguinary and frequently barbarous, which contributed under the Merovingian kings to the completion of the conquests of the Franks. We shall therefore point out only those directly connected with Alsace, as the part of the Frankish domain interesting to us.

In 628, Dagobert I., succeeding his father, Clothar II., came into possession of the whole empire of the Franks, which then extended from the Elbe to the Pyrenees, and from the Western Ocean to the frontiers of Hungary and Bohemia. In spite of the wisdom and skill with which he governed, Dagobert saw two blows given to his power which were the prelude to the decadence of the Merovingians. In outside affairs the Saxons refused him the

tribute they owed, the Thuringians demanded a special governor, and a new state, that of the Venetians, was formed on the borders of the Danube. At home, the high military functionaries raised their pretensions to a more and more considerable authority, thus laying the foundations of the feudal system, which, during the following centuries, was to weaken and often neutralize the sovereign power.

These military offices were those of *dukes* or governors of provinces; *marquises*, charged with defending the frontiers; and *counts*, ministers of affairs in the duchies.

Originally these positions were confided to chiefs chosen by the king, with the right of dismissal; but they soon became hereditary, thus limiting his resources of action. The royal authority was still further trammled by the creation in the great states of Neustria and Austrasia of *Mayors of the Palace*, who from simple king's ministers, raised their own power little by little till they dominated their masters and finally replaced them. It must, however, be remembered that the thing which gave the most sinister blow to the power of the Franks was the fatal partition of his kingdom among his sons made by every monarch who had succeeded in uniting under his own government all the regions which had submitted to the Frankish rule.

Among the great dignitaries and government officials of this epoch, was *Ettich* or *Attich*, the first Duke of Alsace, elevated to this high position in 670, by Childebert II., King of Austrasia, who died by assassination, after he had wrested Bourgoyne and Neustria from his brother Theodoric, and shut him up in a monastery at Saint Denis.

At that time Alsace was divided into two regions, or *Gau*:—the *Sundgau*, to the south, and the *Nordgau*, to the north. Attich had his residence at *Obernai*, at the foot of Mount Altitona, on whose summit he built a great castle called *Hohenburg*. His wife, *Berswinda*, bore him a number of children, who were, in the male line, the founders of the families of the Dukes of Lorraine, the Counts of Eguisheim in Alsace, the Counts of Roussillon, Flanders, and Paris, the Landgraves of Hapsbourg, Sachringen and Bade; and in the female line, of the Salian emperors of Germany, the families of the Hohenstaufen, and the Capets in France.

In 687, Pippin of Heristal was proclaimed major domus of all the Frankish states, and after his death, in 714, his son Charles Martel was recognized as Duke of Austrasia by the seigniors of that country. In 719 he possessed all the powers his father had had. He died in 741, after reigning under the title of Duke of the Franks.

During this real sovereignty, to which nothing but the title of king was lacking, Charles Martel again reduced the Saxons to obedience, as well as the Bavarians and the Alemanni, and in 732, near Poitiers, he crushed a formidable army of Saracens who, under the command of Abd-er-Rahman, had traversed the Pyrenees and the whole Midi of France.

In 752, his son Pippin the Short seized the crown of the Merovingians, two hundred and seventy-one years after the accession of Clovis.

During this period the customs of the Franks had imposed themselves upon the Gallic nation. They generally fought on foot, with the sword, the pike

and the two-edged battle ax for weapons, and their only pay was a share in the spoils.

Their king was the head of the army, and the first soldier of the nation. His accession was proclaimed by raising him on a shield. He had absolute power to make peace, war, and alliances; to regulate the taxes, and to name the dukes and counts, whom he usually chose from among the *barons*, or chief nobles. The nobility formed the highest class of the nation, next came the freemen, and then the serfs and slaves.

The administrators and judges in the villages were the "heads of a hundred"; in the larger centers of population they were the counts and dukes. The soldiers were under the jurisdiction of the military chiefs, and the lesser ecclesiastics under that of the bishops. The Franks were governed by the Salic laws, the Gauls of the Midi by Roman law, the Gauls of the north by codes peculiar to each tribe.

Among these codes, which were greatly varied and all barbaric, there were admitted trial by boiling water, into which the arm must be plunged; by burning irons, which must be seized by the hand; by cold water, where the innocent floated and the guilty sank; and by duel, when the two champions fought, the one in favor of the accused, the other for his downfall.

The Latin language, already corrupted by its mixture with the Gallic during the Gallo-Roman period, became more impure under the Merovingian rule, and finally settled into the popular idiom known under the name of *Lingua romana*, from which came the French language with its Latin, Greek, Celtic and Frankish elements.

From the decadence in architecture, there resulted a new style that was later called Romance, like the language, because it aimed at the imitation of Roman buildings.

Science and letters had almost disappeared during this lamentable phase of the history of the Gauls, and what remnants of them there were, lay altogether in the obscure labors of a few monks, devoted toilers, but for the most part ignorant and superstitious. Some of them wrote chronicles and looked after the preservation of ancient manuscripts, while others scraped the parchments that bore these precious manuscripts, in order to use them for writing out marvelous legends and incredible tales.

Like the other parts of Gaul, Alsace was subject to the conditions we have been mentioning; but she had the advantage of enjoying continual security under the Frankish kings, and of their disposition to inhabit this beautiful country, either temporarily or in more permanent fashion, as did the son of Dagobert II. Thus she recovered a part of her earlier prosperity, and saw new cities rising in her territory at the same time that the old ones were beginning to flourish again. Among the latter was Basel, then belonging to Alsace; Brisach, which was still on the left bank of the Rhine; Saverne, fortified by the Merovingians; and Strasbourg or Argentina, rebuilt upon the ruins of Argentoratum, where Clovis, they say, erected during the years from 504 to 510, the first Christian church, on the site of the ancient temple of Hercules, where to-day the city's fine cathedral stands.

Without these fortified towns the Alsatian plain was covered with numbers of chateaux and farms,

the former belonging to the royal domains, and the latter to rich seigniors.

The chief royal residences and dependances were Sirens, Illzach, Isenbourg (Isenheim), Rouffach, Columbaria (Colmar), Selotistat (Schlestadt), Horinstein (Erstein), Marien, Kirchheim, Koenigshoven, Sueshausen, and Saloissa (Seltz).

Numerous convents and monasteries were also built in Alsace. The oldest is that of Marmontier, a league distant from Saverne, which was erected in 590. Then came, in chronological order, the following: Munster, founded in 660, in the valley of Saint Gregory (Valley of Munster); Hohenburg, erected by Attich for his daughter Saint Odile at the close of the seventh century; Ebersheim, also founded by Attich; Wissembourg, Blidenveld, Saarbours, Haslach, Saint Thomas (of Strasbourg), and Saint Sigismund (of Rouffach), all built at the same epoch by Dagobert II, or under his protection; Niedermunster, built by Sainte Odile in 700; Saint Etienne (of Strasbourg), erected by Adelbert, the son of Attich; Massevaux and Murbach, founded in 724 by Mason and Evrard, sons of Adelbert; Neuviller, built between 722 and 744 by Sigvald, Bishop of Metz; Leberau, in the valley of Liepvre, and Saint Hippolyte, that Fulrade had erected in 722; Haschow (Eschau), founded in 778 by Remi, Bishop of Strasbourg; Erstein, built by Hermengarde, wife of Lothaire I.; Saint Eleon, built at Audlan by Richarde, wife of Charles the Fat.

The number of these convents increased remarkably in the course of the following centuries.

It was the same with the castles or *Burgs*, which arose one after another on the summits of the

Vosges, in imitation of that of Hohenburg, that the Duke Attich had built on Mount Altitona, above his princely residence at Obernai.

The important role which history assigns to Attich, his family and his posterity, makes it necessary to find place here for the interesting legend of his daughter, Sainte Odile.

It was in 662 that Bereswind first presented her husband, Attich, with a child. He wished for a son, and was greatly disturbed by the announcement of the birth of a daughter, which his wife's old nurse had come to make to him. He was at table, surrounded by friends and the officers of his household, whose remarks were not intended to lessen his sensitiveness and disappointment. Under the stress of his feelings, he refused to go to look at his daughter, and ordered that she be kept entirely in the hands of the women. Then he broke out in a fury when he learned that the daughter just born to him was blind; for he looked upon the birth of the imperfect child as a disgrace. "Let her be killed," he cried, "and let the matter never afterward be mentioned in my family!"

To save the life of her daughter, Bereswind had her taken away that very night by the old nurse, who confided her to the care of a relative living in one of the villages of the plain. But this hiding place not seeming to the unhappy mother a safe enough one, she sent a message to a friend of hers, the superior of a convent at Palma (Baume-les-Dames), in Franche-Comte, asking if she would not give protection to the feeble and innocent victim of paternal pride.

The child was received at the convent and brought up there, where she made herself more and more beloved as she grew older, because of her loveliness of character and her piety. When she had passed her girlhood she was baptized by Saint Ehrhardt, Bishop of Bavaria, received the name of Odile, and beginning from this moment was gradually healed of her blindness.

Odile knew about her family, and that she had been completely forgotten by her father, who supposed her to have been killed by his orders, on the very day of her birth. She hesitated to take her vows, for she cherished a hope of some day returning to her parents, and taking her place beside the brothers who had been born after her. She resolved to inform one of these brothers, *Hugues*, of her existence, and of the situation in which she found herself, and she sent him, hidden in a ball of silk, a letter telling him of these things.

One day, as the young man was mounting the road from Obernai to Hohenbourg on horseback, an old woman stepped out of the brushwood bordering the path, and came toward him, saying: "Seignior, take this ball of silk, and remember it is by breaking the shell that one finds the kernel." Hugues took what she offered him, and continued on his way, while the old woman disappeared.

As soon as he had removed the mysterious covering and read the message it contained, the brother of Odile felt a warm affection for this unknown sister spring up in his heart, and on the morrow he told his father of the young girl's existence, and of the miracle God had wrought for her in giving her back her sight.

Hugues was greatly grieved by the coldness with which his confidence was received. The only result of it was a command never again to speak to his father of a daughter looked upon as dead from the moment of her birth.

In spite of his first failure, Hugues hoped to overcome the obstinacy of Attich. He sent a messenger to his sister, with an escort of cavaliers sumptuously arrayed, charged with delivering her a letter in which he invited her to come to Hohenburg, dressed with all the richness appropriate to her rank, and surrounded by the warriors, who would heighten the effect of her arrival at the ducal domain.

Odile followed out the wishes of her brother, and a few days after her departure from Palma, a brilliant procession was seen advancing along the route to Hohenburg. Surrounded by a retinue of women and adorned with the richest of garments, the young Saint sat in a chariot drawn by ten white oxen, while the warriors, mounted and in shining armor, rode in ranks on either side.

Attich, who was hunting with his son on the mountain, caught sight of these travelers, whose sumptuous array was such as only notables of the highest rank might display.

"What woman," he asked Hugues, "can be coming in such state to Hohenburg?"

"The daughter of the Duke of Alsace," replied the young man, "is the only one who has the right to travel in Alsace with so much pomp. That is my sister, coming to claim her place among the members of her family and in her father's heart."

"And is it you," demanded Attich, "who have dared invite her to take this outrageous step?"

Midi, by the ultra-Royalist tendencies of the "*chambre introuvable*," by the billion francs given to the Emigres, the execution of the four young sergeants of La Rochelle, the Ultramontane party's abuse of its supreme influence, and the detestable proceedings against the officers of the old army.

Public opinion was beginning to revolt against the deplorable reaction, and was producing here and there attempts at resistance, two of which had their scene of action in the Department of *Haut-Rhin*.

At various points in France, a great conspiracy was being organized to overturn the government imposed by the hostile armies. The confederates of Belfort were to take the initiative in the movement, at the beginning of the year 1822, and devoted patriots from all sides hastened to that city. From Paris came General LaFayette and his son, Colonel Pailhes, Bazard, and many others; while from New Brisach came Armand Carrel and Joubert. But the denunciation of a panic-stricken petty officer, caused the project to fail, and some of the conspirators were obliged to turn back or take to flight, while others were arrested at Belfort or even in Switzerland, in defiance of the rights of that country's neutrality.

Forty-four of the accused, in the midst of evidences of the liveliest popular sympathy, were shut up in the prison at Colmar, and remained there under durance during the nine months of preliminary proceedings before their appearance at the bar of the court of assises of *Haut-Rhin*.

In spite of the efforts of the royal magistracy, the Alsatian juries acquitted forty of the accused, and condemned the other four—Pailhes, Guinard, Duc-

laud, and Tellier—to only five years in prison, a fine of five thousand francs, and two years of surveillance. These men alone were deprived of the warm ovation which the citizens of Colmar gave to their fellow-accused upon their coming out of prison.

During the same year, 1822, and during the incarceration of the conspirators of Belfort, the capital of *Haut-Rhin* was the theatre of one of the most abominable events which happened during the reign of Louis XVIII. It may well be recalled here as a characteristic episode of that epoch.

Among the numerous officers either superannuated or on half pay, who inhabited Colmar, was a brave Colonel of Dragoons named Caron. He lived very quietly with his wife and a son of twelve, and among the few friends he cultivated was an old military man named Roger, now free from all connection with military affairs.

Already known to hold opinions antagonistic to the Bourbons, these men had the imprudence to air them in the presence of a number of under officers of a regiment of light horse, on garrison duty at Colmar. These under officers whose names were Thiers, Gerard, Magnien and Delzaine, reported the matter to their superiors, and were told to pretend to lend their support to all Caron's propositions.

Thus encouraged by these agents of provocation, Caron and Roger conceived a plan for the insurrection of the garrisons at Colmar and New Brisach, and the deliverance of the Belfort conspirators.

To draw them on toward the execution of this project, the under officers assured them that the squadrons under their own command were at their disposal, and even went so far as to put money into

their hands for defraying the initial expenses. Finally they arrived at setting the day for taking up arms.

The second of July, at the earliest appointed moment, Caron and Roger made their way to the spot in the country where they were to be joined by a squadron from Colmar and another from Brisach. When the meeting had taken place, Caron arrayed himself in the full dress costume of a colonel of dragoons, and threw his civil costume among the vines nearby. These garments were at once found and taken to the Prefect by Quartermaster Magnien.

Then Colonel Caron made a speech to the three hundred light cavalry who had joined him, and who were under orders to obey implicitly their under officers, although they might see some of their superior officers in the ranks, dressed as privates.

Caron's speech was answered with the cry, "Long live the Emperor!" and the column set out in the direction of Ensisheim, passing through several populous villages, whose inhabitants fortunately were not incited by the incessant repetition of this cry.

Upon arriving at Battenheim, the soldiers refused to go on to Ensisheim, and shortly afterward threw themselves upon Caron and Roger, seized their papers and their arms, and hoisted them, bound hand and foot, into a cart, to take them back to Colmar under guard of one of the squadrons, the other having returned to New Brisach.

You may judge of the grievous astonishment of the citizens of Colmar, when they saw passing through their streets, this ignoble vehicle, guarded

before, behind, and on both sides by the light horse. On the one seat of the cart requisitioned at Battenheim, was Colonel Caron, bound with cords. His uniform was covered with dust, and his fine head with its circle of white hair about his bare crown, and stript of its helmet, which had been thrown at the prisoner's feet, was exposed to the burning mid-day sun. Behind the rude seat lay Roger in bourgeois dress, stretched out on a thin bed of straw.

After the incarceration of these two victims of such odious treason, numbers of cavalry patrols circulated in the streets until night-fall. The object of this ridiculous farce was to permit the authorities to state in their report to the Government, that they had had to take the measures necessary for preserving public tranquility.

Roger being a civilian, and it being impossible to separate him and Caron in the affair, both should have appeared before the Court of Assizes, for all military tribunals were incompetent in Roger's case. However, by order of the Government, they were both dragged before a council of war at Strasbourg, which condemned Caron to death and Roger to the galleys. Their appeal for reversal of judgment remained in the portfolios of Minister Payronnet, and Caron was not even permitted to see his wife and child. He was shot behind the barracks of La Finckmatt in Strasbourg, and Roger was for many years subjected to cruel suffering, both moral and physical, in the galleys of Toulon.

The four under officers, the chief visible actors in this atrocious drama, were named sub-lieutenants, and moreover Gerard and Thiers were decorated with the cross of the Legion of Honor. These

promotions were made at a review on the *Champ de Mars* of Colmar, in the presence of her unsympathetic citizens.

Kind people of Mulhouse provided for Caron's son. Upon his return from the galleys, Roger, hospitably received at Colmar, established there a riding school for civilians, which gained him an honorable living. After July, 1830, he was appointed lieutenant of gendarmery in Algeria.

THIRTEENTH VIEW.

Revolution of 1830 and reign of Louis Philippe.—Revolution of 1848.—Patriotic celebration of the second centenary of the return of Alsace to France.—*Coup d'Etat* and the Second Empire.—Plebiscite.—War with Germany.

France was growing more and more weary of the reactionary and clerical regime of the government of the Bourbons, and there began to take form, under the title of *Liberal opinion*, a general opposition, into which all the former adherents of the Empire and all minds eager for progress and liberty entered.

From all sides the voice of the people arose, recalling the rights acquired by the Revolution of 1789, the glories of the Empire, and the origin and faults of the Restoration; and demanding absolute respect for the constitutional charter.

Also at each new election of members of the Chamber, the number of *Liberal* deputies became more considerable.

In spite of all this, after a journey to Alsace made by Charles X. in 1828, when he was led to receive as a proof of popular devotion the official acclamations with which he was everywhere received, this old King did not hesitate to give the command of a French army to Bourmont, the great traitor of Waterloo; to put the army of Paris under the orders of Marmont, who was guilty of having left the

allies open passage to the capital at the time of the invasion; and to violate the charter by his famous ordinances of July, 1830.

It was too much! The address to the King, voted by two hundred and twenty-one Liberal deputies of the Chamber, provoked the uprising of the people of Paris, and after three days of fighting, the Bourbons were once more driven from France.

The Revolution of 1830 was acclaimed with enthusiasm by the very great majority of the French, and was so ardently welcomed in Alsace that even before the success of the Paris combatants was definitely known, the inhabitants of many Alsatian cities had taken patriotic measures to sustain them. There were immediately formed corps of volunteers, which were soon replaced by the organization of the National Guard.

By September, Alsace had more than fifty thousand of the National Guard enrolled, armed and equipped by the state, and uniformed at their own expense. This large number of Alsatian militia included squadrons or companies of cavalry in various localities, and in all fortified places, such as Mulhouse and Colmar, batteries of artillery, and everywhere corps of sappers organized in battalions, companies or sections, according to the importance of their stations.

As the majority of these men had served as soldiers and most of their leaders were formerly army officers, the Alsatian National Guard was soon very well disciplined and capable of rendering military service of real importance.

These good results were produced in part by the patriotic exaltation aroused in the country by the

menaces of the Czar Nicholas, which he was hindered from putting into execution by the insurrection of the Poles, who once more poured out their blood in combat with the enemies of France.

The seventh of August, 1830, the deputies exceeding somewhat the instructions put upon them by their constituents, had proclaimed Louis Philippe King of the French, not *because* he was a Bourbon, but *although* he was a Bourbon. They believed with the aged LaFayette, that his reign would be the best of republics.

The coming to the throne of Louis Philippe was hailed with satisfaction by a very large majority of the nation, and it was by a series of enthusiastic ovations that this popular sovereign was received, when he journeyed through Alsace in 1831, with his two sons, the Dukes of Orleans and Nemours.

Men saw in him the recognized friend of all the chiefs of the great Liberal party; the old-time Republican General of Valmy and Jemmapes; the Citizen King, who brought up his sons in the public schools, and who might be seen in the streets in the frock coat of the bourgeois, wearing a grey hat and carrying an umbrella under his arm. He was to them the representative of a government subject to a charter *imposed*, not *granted*; a government of liberty and progress. And such he really was during the first two years of his reign; but then he began to turn away from the path of political amelioration, and to confine himself more and more closely to the limits of the rights of royalty. He responded less and less readily to the generous impulses of the country, and for the purpose of stemming their tide, he first employed the ministries

of Dupont de l'Eure, Laffitte and Casimir Perier, and then, for the fifteen following years, cast into the scales of his governmental balance, the ministers Thiers, Mole, de Broglie and Guizot.

Together with Guizot, he resolved to put down a desire widespread among the people—the desire to give equal rights with the assessed electors, to a class of men made eligible by the title of licentiate of some one of the divers faculties, or that of retired officer.

The barrier he thus tried to raise as an obstacle to the movement of minds was too weak. It was broken down in 1848, and the rupture carried away the ruins of the throne, which fell under the shock of a few hours of firing.

Louis Philippe had not even reached England, whither he fled, before the Second Republic was rising from earth in France. Its arrival did not produce as general enthusiasm as that which had broken forth in 1830, yet it came with the approval of a national majority, and with at least the apparent consent of all French citizens.

The Republic of 1848 ran the same course in Alsace as in the other parts of France. The National Guards, successively disbanded under the government of Louis Philippe, or fallen into neglect from the evil effects of the law which regulated them, were rapidly and successfully reorganized, but unfortunately there were also formed a regrettable number of clubs and general societies, rather harmful through their exaggerations than helpful to genuine progress.

In spite of these discords between the true patriots and a certain class of over-excited men, it was

with great enthusiasm and a perfect spirit of accord, that in 1848 all Alsace celebrated the second centenary of its return to France.

Brilliant fetes, their splendor heightened by military display, were given successively, with intervals of two days, at Belfort, Mulhouse, Colmar, and Strasbourg, and at each city there was a reunion of a number of detachments of the National Guards of the two departments, which manoeuvred with the troops of the various garrisons on the parade grounds, and afterward fraternized with them in collations served publicly in the midst of an extremely patriotic people.

In spite of their essentially democratic nature, the Alsatian people could not keep out of entanglements with the Bonapartist intrigues, so skilfully managed by the Duke de Morny, with the aid of a great number of agents and emissaries scattered throughout France. The common people were made to believe in a future of reforms, directed especially to their social betterment. Men of prudence and moderation, were at the same time presented with the image of the *spectre rouge*, ready to destroy the family, property, and the whole social order. To those of still another type was promised private tranquillity and peace in the State. The glory and power of the first Empire were made to glitter before everybody's eyes. Thus Louis Napoleon was elected President of the Republic.

The efforts made to arrive at this result had, however, obtained only indifferent success in Alsace, when some months before the *Coup d'Etat* of the second of December, 1851, the Prince-President as the men of the Bonapartist party affected to call

him, traveled through the two departments of the Rhine.

The journey became for him a series of unpleasant surprises and disappointments. He was everywhere badly received by the inhabitants of towns and cities where he stopped, hearing only cries of "*Vive la Republique!*" So that from Besancon to Strasbourg, he always anticipated the hour set for his departure, and consequently that of his arrival in the next town.

Only a little while afterward, fell the *Coup d'Etat* by which Louis Napoleon laid a heavy hand on the Republic that had recalled him from exile and raised him to the rank of its representatives, who in turn had confided to him the office of chief magistrate,—the Republic to which as deputy and President he had sworn fidelity and devotion!

On the second of December, 1851, the principal republican deputies were arrested, the others were driven out, and the few gatherings that offered a feeble resistance in Paris, were scattered with cannon balls.

In the Departments, all such attempted assemblies were violently crushed, and everywhere citizens known to hold republican views were threatened and spied upon. Many were detained in departments distant from those in which they lived, and from Paris as well as from the provinces, considerable numbers were deported to Africa.

Led astray by the Legend of the First Empire, deceived by false and illusory promises, and influenced by powerful means of intimidation, the electors amnestied by a plebiscite the violent usurpation of the second of December.

The twenty years which followed under the Imperial Regime which was to have been one of peace, were disturbed by a series of wars—in China, the Crimea, Italy, Mexico, and finally, alas!—in France!

The authoritative and personal power of the Imperial Government had lost prestige among the enlightened classes of the nation, and with the aim to prevent its own decadence, it seized upon a pretext for asking of the country and obtaining from it a new plebiscite, which was put forth the eighth of May, 1870.

But this electoral victory was not enough to enable the Emperor to wipe out of his history the deplorable pages of the Mexican war, and he needed another and farther resounding victory to assure the fate of his dynasty. Its power would assuredly have been consolidated, had the country been given the glory of vanquishing Prussia, which since Sadowa had dominated in Germany, and aspired to the re-establishment of the great German Empire.

Although it was evident that in case of war with France the various German states would at once rally around Prussia, and in spite of our denuded arsenals and the condition of our army, exhausted and impoverished as it was by the Mexican expedition, the Imperial Government resolved to try the fortunes of the fatherland in a war which the Empress said was *her war*, because in it she saw at once the assurance of her son's future, and the humiliation of a Protestant nation that was on the verge of becoming predominant in Europe.

Emboldened and haughty after the success of her arms in Denmark and Austria, and confident in the

formidable armament she had for a long time been preparing, Prussia, on her side, desired a war with France.

With this reciprocal disposition in the French and Prussian Governments, a diplomatic difficulty arose between them, upon the subject of a Hohenzollern prince who was to mount the Spanish throne. Napoleon III. demanded that he renounce it, and that the King of Prussia give surety of his doing so. William I. agreed to the renunciation, but refused to assure it. This was enough, and the declaration of war was read in the French Chamber of Deputies, on the twentieth of July, 1870.

FOURTEENTH VIEW.

Conditions in Alsace before the war of 1870.—Events which took place there during the war.—The cession of Alsace-Lorraine and its effects.—Patriotism of the inhabitants.

During the passage of the nineteenth century, Alsace rose to a remarkable degree of prosperity and progress of every nature. From three hundred thousand souls which she numbered at the time of her return to France in 1648, in 1870 her population had risen to the number of a million active and intelligent citizens, worthy to enjoy the gifts accorded by Nature to this beautiful, rich and fruitful country.

Measured in a straight line from north to south between its two extreme points, the country has a length of nearly one hundred and twenty-five miles; and measured from east to west in the same way, its mean breadth is over thirty miles. It has an area of about three thousand miles, nearly seventeen hundred in cultivated lands and meadows, a thousand in forests, over a hundred in vineyards, and nearly two hundred in uncultivated land, mountains, lakes and ponds.

It is furrowed with highways, canals and various other lines of communication, of which the most important are the railroads from Belfort and Basel to Mulhouse, Colmar, Strasbourg, and Saverne, and

the canal leading from the Rhone into the Rhine, and ending at Strasbourg.

The vast plain, stretched out like a well-leveled garden between the Rhine and the Vosges, and from the Swiss frontier to that of the Palatinate, with its great and beautiful forests, fertile meadows, and numerous water-courses, is rich in all the cultivated products fostered by the favorable climate of France, with the exception of the oranges and olives of the Midi. Numerous cities and villages are distributed throughout the region, seldom more than two and a half or three miles apart.

Over the whole extent of the eastern slope of the chain of the Vosges, its foothills are covered with luxuriant vineyards, its flanks wooded with oak and chestnut trees, and its summits heavy with dark and imposing groves of pine, with the ruins of numerous feudal castles beetling above them, and a few peaks towering still higher—vast Alpine pasture-lands, the highest of which attain an altitude of forty-six hundred feet.

In this beautiful mountain chain are found at once great fertile valleys, charming dales, lakes, torrents and cascades, huge rocks, and precipices with grantie walls three hundred feet high; so that one may see but short distances apart scenes the most smiling and aspects the wildest—the greatest variations of a resourceful Nature, sometimes tender and kindly, sometimes awe-inspiring, harsh, threatening, and seeming as though still agitated by the cataclysms she suffered in pre-historic times.

The vigorous Alsatian race was able to add to the natural gifts of its beautiful and fruitful country, all the advantages of civilization. The system of

public instruction was highly developed in both the departments of the Rhine. The Academie of Strasbourg had acquired a just renown from the high class of instruction given under its various faculties, and the city possessed besides a military School of Medicine, and a *lycee*. Colmar had a *lycee* and Mulhouse a *college* and a very remarkable industrial school. There were a number of other *colleges* in Alsace, at Haguenau, Wissembourg, Saverne, Obernai, Schlestadt, Rouffach, Thann, Altkirk, and Belfort.

A large number of the young graduates of these institutions went on with higher studies in science, belles-letters, medicine and law, or took honorable places in the polytechnical and normal schools and the schools of forestry, at Saint-Cyr, and the school *des Arts et Metiers* at *Chalons*. Elementary instruction was so general that the smallest villages had at least one school, and during the later years *all* the conscripts knew how to read and write.

Just as the two Alsatian departments stood in the first rank where popular education was concerned, that of *Bas-Rhin* stood second and that of *Haut-Rhin* third in order among the departments in which agriculture was carried to the highest perfection. In each of the two capitals there was a departmental Agricultural society, whose influence spread to the smaller societies established in the different *arrondissements*, and to numerous cantonal and communal societies. One was moved to admiration by the tireless energy of the vine-growers and agriculturists of the country, who gathered within the space of a few days the abundant products of their immense vineyards, or harvested, with

the same ardor in their work, the crops which covered their vast fields or the hay from their countless grassy plains.

In the fields, in the meadows, in the vineyards, work was vigorously carried on the year round, but with especial energy at harvest time, and no one knew that he was tired or thought of rest till his task was done.

The division of the land among a multiplicity of proprietors, contributed greatly to these results. Even the small number of great landed proprietors personally administered their estates, and few lands were farmed out. The Alsatian land, like its inhabitants, was essentially democratic.

The workingmen of the cities made the establishments in which they were employed prosperous by their skill and activity, and thus played a large part in the development of the numerous extensive manufactories which so greatly augmented the country's wealth.

In acknowledgment of the skill and faithfulness of their workmen, the Alsatian manufacturers have always shown a friendly solicitude for them by creating pension and insurance funds, building schools for their children, and establishing work-mens' towns, of which the one at Mulhouse was the first in France, and has remained the most nearly perfect model for all that have aimed to imitate it, and the most beautiful and wisest of philanthropic works, giving to toilers the means of easily bettering their condition and assuring their future while preserving entire independence.

It must also be said to the honor of the proprietors of the great Alsatian industries, that in

times of dullness or crisis they have made very considerable sacrifices in order to keep their workmen busy the greatest number of hours possible, and thus assure them sufficient income for their needs. It should also be added that in this country, so largely industrial, where the great manufactories count their workers by the thousands, there have never been any strikes, and not more than two or three instances of labor agitations, and those quite inoffensive, restricted to a few individuals and a few hours, with no resemblance to that hideous evil which ruins workingmen and employers alike, and gravely threatens the prosperity of the nation itself.

As in all countries where great industries are highly developed and there is a considerable density of population, trade was very flourishing in Alsace.

The Alsatian people were always most sympathetically inclined toward everything that concerned the army, and the officers and soldiers stationed in the garrison towns of the country, left them with regret, and never forgot the hospitable and friendly entertainment they had received. From men's earliest remembrance, young Alsatians had continually shown a pronounced inclination for military life. The days of conscription were always festival days, and a large number of those who escaped being drafted, voluntarily entered the service. There were also so many ready to re-engage, that they furnished a considerable contingent of the corps of under-officers.

As to superior officers, Alsatians were numerous throughout the army, and from their ranks have come a great number of men famous for the services they rendered the country, the most celebrated

of whom have left to posterity the glorious names of Kellermann, Kleber, Rapp, Lefebvre, Pelissier and Braut.

Under the influence of the military spirit abroad in Alsace, a large number of gymnasiums and shooting-galleries were established throughout the country.

In the cities and towns of the second and third rank, the bourgeoisie, made up almost entirely of land-holders and merchants, were characterized by a quiet, regular and domestic life. In the more important places, this bourgeoisie, more numerous, more active, richer, and having among its number more artisans, merchants, landed proprietors and people of independent fortune, was still further augmented by various classes of state functionaries and communal and departmental bureaucrats. This aggregation of men whose professions demand a superior degree of education, produced a class characterized by a taste for social assemblies, the theatre, music, and scientific, art, and literary societies, which did not, however, encroach upon the healthy and inspiring life of the family. Very few Alsatian towns were without musical societies, either choral or orchestral, and in the more important towns there were always several of them.

At Strasbourg, the civilizing spirit found a powerful stimulant in the post-graduate instruction given under the various faculties of its famous *Academie*; in the treasures of its fine library and its museums of art and natural history; and in the resources of its admirable theatre.

At Mulhouse the elements of social progress were to be found especially in the good influence of its

Industrial Society, whose learned chemists, physicists, mechanicians and naturalists produced so many works of importance, that after the Institute it became the chief scientific society of France.

Colmar, less populous than the two large cities just mentioned, perhaps accepted the more readily and effectively among its inhabitants generally the favorable intellectual effects of the presence of its Court of Appeals and its two courts of justice, with their magistrates, lawyers and clerks and the large number of functionaries connected with the various departmental administrations concentrated in this capital city of *Haut-Rhin*. It possessed besides an immense and very important library, as well as a splendid museum of art, natural history and ethnography. As at Strasbourg and Mulhouse, science, art and letters were here assiduously cultivated.

Alsace also set an example of great tolerance in religious matters. The Catholics made up about three-fifths of the population, and lived in perfect peace with the Protestants, who with a very small number of Jews, made up the other two-fifths. The free-thinkers were scattered among the faithful followers of these three cults, whose harmony there was never any attempt to disturb, save in a few rare cases, by individuals who were as unsupported as they were uninfluential, and who were always unsuccessful. A fact taken at random may serve to illustrate this harmony. In the rich commune of Horburg, near Colmar, a little old church served alternately, according to need, for the services of Protestants or Catholics.

The preceding sketch gives but a faint conception of what Alsace was at the moment when the fatal war of 1870 broke out.

During the course of July, the Alsatian *Gardes Mobiles* were called out, and occupied the fortified towns of the country, while the numerous military convoys transported in the direction of the Palatinate frontier a part of the two hundred fifty thousand men which France was reduced to opposing to a million Germans.

The fourth of August, a corps of eight thousand French stationed near Wissembourg, under command of General Abel Douai, was surprised and attacked by eighty thousand Prussians and Bavarians, and after a heroic fight, was forced to retire to Haguenau. Then came the defeats of Mac-Mahon and General Frossard, which produced a profound depression in Alsace, where there were no longer any regular troops, and where the fortified towns themselves were guarded only by the remnants of different regiments, by some of the *Gardes Mobiles* who had been mustered in haste, and were badly armed, badly equipped, and poorly clothed, and by the citizens that a decree of the tenth of August had just called into the ranks of the Stationary National Guard.

After the defeat of Marshal Mac-Mahon, the Germans spread out over the department of *Bas-Rhin*, and invested Strasbourg.

While this siege was going on, Napoleon III. capitulated at Sedan, delivered the French army into the hands of the enemy to whom he had surrendered, and on the fourth of September, the Third Republic was proclaimed at Paris.

It was not until the 12th of September that the Germans entered *Haut-Rhin* where from the beginning of the month the Alsatians had been organ-

izing on paper the National Guard, for which they had been able to furnish only a few percussion guns, but no equipment or rations. Nevertheless, when on the 13th of September at eight o'clock in the morning six thousand Badenese troops approached Colmar, with five pieces of artillery, the volunteer company of Saint Denis, which had been stationed there for three days, faced the enemy, with the support of about one hundred and fifty of the National Guard, whose patriotism drew them individually into this honorable but futile attempt to defend an unprotected city. These brave fellows drove the enemy's advance guard back beyond Horbourg, but were then forced to beat a retreat, after killing a number of the enemy, and losing one of the volunteers and a bourgeois citizen of Colmar.

To retaliate for this slight resistance, the Badenese attempted to blow up the gas works which were situated in the neighborhood of the spot where it happened. With this intent, they stormed the establishment for half an hour, striking it with thirty-seven shells, and causing great damage. After this fine exploit, they entered the capital of *Haut-Rhin*, in closed ranks, where they killed three inoffensive men in the streets.

They retired from Colmar the fifteenth of September, and then there were seen passing through that city troops of *francs-tireurs*, sometimes Prussian uhlans, and once a body of fifteen hundred of the gards mobile, on the way from Lyons to Brisach.

Strasbourg, overwhelmed by the powerful German artillery, was forced to surrender, the twenty-eighth of September, immediately after-

ward Schlestadt and Brisach were invested, and Mulhouse was occupied by over ten thousand of the enemy's troops.

During the first half of October the whole country was submitted to incessant requisitions and abuses of all sorts, and to frequent arrests of its citizens. A large number of the younger men escaping through the enemy's lines and their outposts—which were everywhere,—crossed the Vosges and rejoined various corps of the French army.

After a valiant defense, Schlestadt was forced to surrender, on the twenty-fourth of October, and Brisach on the tenth of November. The Alsatian *gardes mobiles* were left at the mercy of the brutal German troops, who led them prisoners into their own country, where they suffered the greatest privations. Belfort alone was able to continue her glorious defense!

It was with ever increasing despair that the Alsatian people learned successively of the treason of Bazaine and the surrender of Metz, the defeat of the armies of Bourbaki, Chanzy and Faidherbe, the capitulation of Paris and the frightful civil warfare that followed.

But it remained for them to receive a last blow more cruel still, which at the same time fell upon their brothers of Lorraine—their deliverance into the hands of Germany as a ransom for France!

As a token of their gratitude toward all those who had taken part in the national defense, the Alsations chose to look upon it as being personified in the man who had been its most active and most effective motive power; when therefore they were called upon to elect their deputies to the Assembly

of Bordeaux, they placed Gambetta at the head of their lists, in both departments of the Rhine.

Before the ratification of the treaty of peace with the German Empire, by the Assembly of Bordeaux, the deputies from Alsace-Lorraine addressed a protest to it, containing the following passage: "By these presents we proclaim forever inviolable the right of the citizens of Alsace and Lorraine to remain members of the French nation, and we swear on our own part, and on that of our constituents, their children, and their descendants, to continue to lay claim to it forever and by every means, in the face of all usurpers.

"We are Frenchmen and wish to remain Frenchmen.

"We deny to everybody and everything on earth, assembly or plebiscite, the right to sell us, in totality or in part, be it even under the pretext of sparing the Nation further suffering."

And yet, at its session of the second of March, the Assembly of Bordeaux adopted by a vote of five hundred and forty-six against one hundred seven, the peace preliminaries accepted at Versailles on the twenty-sixth of February, 1871, by virtue of which France ceded to Germany a fifth part of Lorraine, including Metz and Thionville, and all of Alsace except Belfort.

After this decision of the Assembly, the deputies from the territory ceded made a final protest, whose most important terms were these:

"Given up to foreign rule, in defiance of all justice, and by an execrable abuse of power, we have a last duty to fulfill.

"We once more declare null and void a compact which disposes of us without our consent.

"The demand for the return of our rights will forever remain open to all and several, in the form and in the measure that our conscience shall dictate.

"At the moment of leaving this hall of assembly, where it is no longer in keeping with our dignity for us to sit, and in spite of the bitterness of our suffering, the thought we find supreme in our hearts is a thought of gratitude for those who during six months have not ceased to defend us, and of unalterable attachment to our native land, from which we have been violently torn away."

The fearless and patriotic language of their representatives was a faithful echo of the sentiments of the people of Alsace-Lorraine. They could not doubt that should they accept the German domination with a good grace, their rich country would make one of the most precious jewels of the German Empire, and that Empire would accord them all its favors; but they had only scorn and hatred for everything that could strike a blow at their fidelity to France.

In order not to bow under the foreign yoke, two hundred thousand of the inhabitants of Alsace-Lorraine expatiated themselves, and the thirteen hundred thousand others, whom necessity or duties from which it would have been culpable to escape held in their places, have firmly maintained the sentiments they always had for the fatherland from which they were separated by violence.

And for the nineteen years since their fatal annexation to Germany, what have they not suffered? Always under suspicion and harassed by the dis-

trustful and hostile authorities, how many of them are there who have not,—and even upon the flimsiest of excuses,—been arrested, imprisoned, judged, condemned, exiled?

And is not their whole country submitted to a kind of barbarous *quarantine*? They cannot leave it except under the surveillance of the police, and no one can enter it without meeting obstacles which frequently stand in the way of the most sacred family relations and duties.

The use of the French language is proscribed, not only in the schools and in all public enactments, but even in the most ordinary commercial transactions.

The public revenues are used largely for constructing fortifications, and it is hoped that the depreciation of property will make possible its acquisition at a price so low that colonies of needy immigrants may be established beside the too great number of those whose feet already sully the ground of four of the French departments.

Yet, in spite of all these activities of the German Imperial Government, Alsace-Lorraine, impoverished, oppressed, exploited for the profit of others, remains devoted to France, holds aloof from all private relations with her invaders, and keeps ever open the bleeding wound that binds her to the flanks of Germany.

This last named country is responsible for all the calamities Europe has to suffer by reason of the unrest that disturbs her international affairs, and the enormous expenditures demanded by the formidable armament which each of the nations believes necessary to its security.

Sufficiently powerful, meanwhile, after her victories over Denmark, Austria and France, Germany could not content herself with her glories, the rich indemnities she had wrung from her vanquished enemies, and the local marauding of her soldiery; she must besides make of the Vosges a German frontier that could be only indefinite and artificial, in place of the right bank of the Rhine, that great, wide river, which, after serving for a series of centuries as a boundary line between Celts and Teutons, then between their sons, the Gauls and Alemanni, and then between Franks and Germani, is the only natural and invariable barrier which can separate to their mutual advantage the two nations of France and Germany.

For the sake of the world's peace and progress, this great trench which Nature has cut between nations of different origin and separate races, should be restored to its function.

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Treatment Date: AUG 2

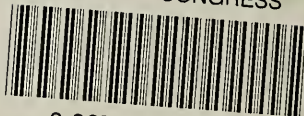
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